FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MAY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq will abide by a cease-fire throughout the month of Ramadan until 1 day after 'Id al-Fitr on condition that Iran publicly and explicitly agrees to do likewise, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn announced in a letter broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio 17 May. In his message, which was in response to an appeal for such a cease-fire from the chairman of the followup committee established by the Islamic Popular Conference held recently in Baghdad, Saddam Husayn stated Iraq's intention to cease fire at midnight on 20 May, and he expressed hope that Iran will not use the cease-fire period to prepare a new attack on Iraqi territory.

As for recent military developments, Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses announced that Iraqi planes hit another "large maritime target" near Khark Island 17 May while Iraqi troops killed 50 Iranians in a raid on enemy positions in the Maysan sector the previous night. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA stated that Iranian forces repulsed an Iraqi attack in the southern front early 17 May.

Iranian Internal Situation

"A few hundred supporters of the defunct shah resorted to childish displays in the capital" on 17 May, IRNA reported, adding that this "silly display" was coordinated with "imperialist" news agencies. Former Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar had called for peaceful demonstrations against the war in an appeal broadcast by the clandestine Radio Iran on 15 May.

Saudi Arabia

Sa'ud al-Faysal in Tehran — The Iran-Iraq war was among the topics discussed during Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's 18-19 May talks with Iranian leaders in Tehran, according to IRNA, which noted that he was visiting the Iranian capital for the first time since Iran's Islamic Revolution. In the discussions Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed Iran's determination to continue its "just" struggle against the Iraqi Government, IRNA said, while Sa'ud al-Faysal stated that Saudi Arabia is ready to cooperate with Iran to solve the problems of the region. After subsequent talks with the Iranian prime minister, Sa'ud al-Faysal asserted that the Iranian side had welcomed the "clarity and frankness" with which the Saudi view was presented, and he expressed hope that the talks will result in a "reassessment" paving the way toward the end of the Iran-Iraq war, according to SPA. He was also received by President 'Ali Khamene'i and Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, IRNA noted, and the latter told the Saudi visitor that there is wide scope for bilateral cooperation in many areas including oil issues.

Riyadh Explosion — An 18 May explosion in Riyadh killed one person and wounded three others, an Interior Ministry source announced in a statement carried by SPA. While AFP reported that the Islamic Jihad group claimed responsibility for the attack, IRNA cited the view of a "reliable source" in Beirut that Iraq was responsible because of its displeasure over Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Tehran.

Al-Qadhdhafi Visit — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi left Jeddah on 19 May after meeting with King Fahd, Riyadh radio reported. Al-Qadhdhafi had performed the minor pilgrimage rites the previous night, shouting slogans hostile to the United States, Jordan's King Husayn, and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, according to Tripoli radio.

Sudan

Relations With Libya — Libyan leader Col Al-Qadhdhafi held talks with Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab during an 18 May stopover at Khartoum Airport, announcing that he had come to Sudan to congratulate the Sudanese on their popular revolution and calling on other Arab armies to follow the Sudanese example, JANA reported. Al-Qadhdhafi made clear his desire for an end to the fighting in southern Sudan and stressed that he has stopped assisting Sudanese People's Liberation Army leader Colonel John Garang, Siwar al-Dhahab disclosed afterward in remarks cited by SUNA. In a related development, SUNA reported a Sudan Liberation Front official's statement that Libya will host talks between a TMC delegation and Col Garang. Meanwhile, eight Libyan Air Force transport planes arrived in Khartoum carrying relief aid, SUNA noted, and Sudan's defense minister received a message from the Libyan Armed Forces commander on ways to develop bilateral military relations.

Investigations — The authorities have formed committees to interrogate former First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib and to investigate members of the dissolved state security apparatus, SUNA reported. Nevertheless, Sudan has not officially asked Egypt to extradite former President Ja'far Numayri and there are no specific charges against him, according to a TMC member cited by MENA on 17 May. On the other hand, the leader of the Sudanese Communist Party called for Numayri's extradition in an interview with the PFLP's *AL-HADAF* cited by AFP.

Libya on Egyptian-Jordanian Maneuvers

A Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau letter to the Arab League Secretary General denounced "provocative" Egyptian-Jordanian joint military maneuvers in Egypt's western desert near the Libyan border, JANA reported.

Syria

Relations With Libya — Presiding over a joint meeting of the Syrian Cabinet and the Libyan General People's Committee in Damascus 19 May, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm said the meeting was directed toward giving a strong and tangible impetus toward unity of action, Damascus radio reported.

Lebanon

Although the East-West Beirut contact lines were calm early on 20 May, the western sector was disturbed by clashes in the Palestinian camps at Sabra, Shatila, and neighboring areas, Beirut radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio said the renewed fighting in the western sector is a Shi'ite-Palestinian confrontation involving the Amal movement against various Palestinian groups which seized the Sports Stadium and the Ghazzah Hospital early 20 May.

Earlier in the weekend, Beirut radio reported intensive artillery exchanges across the Muslim-Christian confrontation lines in Beirut, noting that random shelling caused 31 casualties the night of 17-18 May. On the Christian side, Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Elie Hubayqah issued an 18 May statement announcing that all his forces in Jazzin and the border strip have been ordered to return to Beirut, and expressing support for the swift deployment of the Lebanese Army in the Jazzin area, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Hubayqah stressed his side's desire for an immediate, final, and overall cease-fire in Beirut, and also disclosed that orders have been issued to close the Lebanese Forces office in Israel. Meanwhile, various Muslim personalities welcomed the possibility of the return of Syrian forces to Beirut, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Israel

Relations With Egypt — Israel and Egypt agreed on a timetable for the return of 5,000 Palestinian refugees from Rafah to the Gaza Strip, and Egypt also agreed to allow Israel to conduct searches in Egyptian territory for the bodies of October war MIA's, Jerusalem television stated in a report on the Israeli-Egyptian talks that concluded in Cairo 17 May. However, talks on the Tabah issue reached a dead end, according to an Egyptian official cited by the television.

Economy — The Cabinet adopted some 20 resolutions during its 19 May economic debate including heavier financial restrictions on travel abroad, the Cabinet secretary disclosed in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem television. *THE JERUSALEM POST* subsequently spoke of an air of "grim satisfaction" in Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' office because virtually all the measures submitted by Peres and Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i had been approved despite strenuous opposition and criticism that crossed party lines.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn discussed joint action during talks at Al-Nadwah Palace 17 May, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

The PLO Executive Committee will meet in Amman 20 May to discuss arrangements for the forthcoming PLO Central Council session, due to be held in Tunis 26 May, according to a PLO spokesman cited by the radio.

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'Arafat Receives Cuban Official in Tunis

JN171730 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met in Tunis last night with Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Relations (Raquel Erwal), who is currently visiting Tunis. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the Palestinian situation, the developments inside the occupied territory and Lebanon, and the continuous attacks on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. They also reviewed the PLO's continuous efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war. The PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY, WAFA, has said that brother leader Abu 'Ammar asked the Cuban official to convey a message to Cuban President Fidel Castro. The message deals with developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

'Arafat Receives GDR Ambassador in Tunis

JN171705 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met in Tunis last night with the GDR ambassador in Tunis. During the meeting, they reviewed the recent developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas. The PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY, WAFA, said that Brother Abu 'Ammar asked the GDR ambassador to convey a message to GDR President Erich Honecker. The message deals with recent developments in the Palestine question.

PLO Accuses Pro-Syrian Forces of Camp Attacks

JN201128 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee, which met in Amman last night under Yasir 'Arafat, this morning accused pro-Syrian forces of besieging and shelling the three Palestinian camps in Beirut with the participation of some units of the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade. The PLO issued an urgent appeal to Lebanese Islamic functionaries, particularly Shi'ite and Druze figures, to exert their efforts to stop attacks on camps and contain the clashes in order to preserve Muslim lives, including the Palestinians. The PLO asked the Arab and Islamic leaderships to intercede with Syria so that it will work for stopping the attack that its followers are mounting against the Palestinians in Lebanon, the PLO statement said.

Khalil al-Wazir Outlines Current PLO Policies

LD172129 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1948 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Kuwait, 17 May (KUNA) — Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces and member of the Fatah Central Committee, said that there is no solution for the Middle East issue and the Palestinian issue on the horizon. He denied that the PLO has recognized UN Security Council Resolution No 242 and said that the PLO in its movements has nothing to do with this resolution. He also denied that any discussion has taken place about the names of Palestinian representatives to the Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation, because the question is whether the PLO will be represented in the delegation or not, and since Jordan has the right to appoint its representatives, then the PLO also has the right to appoint representatives of the Palestinian people, and there is no dispute over this.

In a press conference which he held in the Fatah office in Kuwait this afternoon, he said, "The PLO's starting point in its political movements within the framework of 'land in exchange for peace' is different from Jordan's starting points in this matter." He also said that the main option for the revolution is armed struggle.

He stressed that the political movements were never an alternative for armed struggle and that struggle and strife only exist to fulfill a political purpose. He pointed out that political action has not stopped. He listed statistics for the number of guerrilla operations which took place inside the occupied territories, which were admitted by the Israeli enemy. He said that 380 operations were carried out last year and 228 during the first months of this year.

Khalil al-Wazir said that the PLO leadership refuses to be a part of any axis on the Arab arena and it was never a part of any axis when it was in Damascus, when we went to Amman, or in any other place.

He added that the PLO does not impose a state of hostility with Libya or with Syria and revealed that a Libyan official has recently contacted Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, and invited him to visit Tripoli. He expressed the readiness of the officials in Fatah and the PLO to go to Libya even tomorrow. He said that we have no qualms about this, provided that there is sincerity in dealing and preservation of the legitimacy of the PLO.

Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] explained — using evidence, maps, and accurate details — the operation which was about to be implemented by Palestinian guerrillas on the ship *Sumud Tarablus [Steadfastness of Tripoli]* when they were discovered near the shores of occupied Palestine. He pointed out the contradictions in enemy statements about the operation and its location. He said that the American Administration is strategically allied with the Israeli enemy and is currently ignoring the Middle East issue. He added that there is nothing in the Arab reality which forces America to change its position toward the Arabs. He said that the situation in Lebanon does not depend on the PLO, but on the patriotic forces on the Lebanese arena.

He added that the revolution is cooperating with many sides in the patriotic Lebanese arena and welcomed cooperation with all those who want to struggle against Israel. He expressed his belief that a new reality will be in effect in Lebanon within weeks. He described the PLO relations with the Soviet Union as normal said the PLO is eager to make this relation always good and to keep the Soviet Union as a friend.

He said that the visit by the head of the Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, to Moscow was part of a prepared program and at the request of Yasir 'Arafat. He said that if there are some outstanding questions this does not mean that relations between Moscow and the PLO are tense or unnatural.

Comments on Lebanon

GF191346 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18 May 85 p 21

[Excerpt] In a press conference which he held in the Fatah office in Kuwait on 17 May, Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces and member of the Fatah Central Committee, answered a question by *AL-SIYASAH* on the causes of the dispute between the Amal movement and the Palestinians in Lebanon. He said: From behind the scenes, some people want to create disputes between us and the Lebanese. Their sole aim is to remove the Palestinian revolution from the Lebanese arena and to keep our camps and people in Lebanon subject to Phalangist and Israeli aggression, and consequently to repeat the massacres which befell the Palestinian people in Lebanon, and then to create a Palestinian-Lebanese confrontation. He added: Despite all this, we extend our hand and welcome all those who wish to stand by us and help us to get at the Zionist enemy that occupies our land and the land of our Lebanese brothers.

PLO Official Says 'No Objection' to U.S. Dialogue

JN200813 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 May 85 pp 1, 22

[Tawfiq 'Abid dispatch]

[Excerpts] Jamal al-Surani, PLO Executive Committee member, has expressed hope that the United States is serious in achieving peace in this sensitive part of the world. He asserted that planting Israel by force in the heart of the Arab homeland is part of a firm and continuous policy. In an exclusive statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, Al-Surani said that the United States supplies the Zionist entity with all the components of force, expansion, and settlement needs in order to entrench the Zionist entity in this part of the Arab homeland. Regarding the current Arab situation, Al-Surani said that the Jordanian-Palestinian move should continue on all levels. Experience has proven that anyone who confronts or abandons the Palestine cause will be destroyed. The Palestine cause has proven to be the central Arab cause.

Answering a question, Al-Surani said that the military and political Palestinian presence has affected U.S. strategy in the Arab region. Therefore, the U.S. scheme no longer considers settlement in terms of an Egyptian-Israeli, a Jordanian-Israeli, or a Lebanese-Israeli settlement.

Al-Surani said that U.S. talk about the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation does not come from a vacuum, but is the result of a long struggle. He asserted that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz knows full well that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He added that since 1967 Israel has tried to find an alternative [Palestinian] leadership inside the occupied territory, but its efforts have failed. He asserted that Israel has so far not been able to find any Palestinian who can bypass the PLO. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's recent meeting with West Bank and Gaza personalities and mayors has proven our sound views. Al-Surani pointed out that saving the kinfolk in the occupied territory cannot be achieved through capitulation to the Zionist enemy and through making the fate of the Arab homeland the same as the fate of the kinfolk inside.

On reports recently that the Palestinian side had presented certain names, Al-Surani reiterated that the Palestinian side had not presented any names to any party. However, in principle there is no objection to dialogue with the United States on the basis that the joint delegation should be on an equal level. He said that what has been said about names from the PNC is also incorrect. The moment the United States agrees on dialogue with the PLO, we will immediately name the members of our delegation. If we cannot define the delegation, then there is no need for us to stay, because the reason for our presence is to represent our people.

Faruq Qaddumi, Salah Khalaf Expected To Visit Libya

GF192020 London AL-MAJALIS in Arabic 18 May 85 p 13

[Text] *AL-MAJALIS* has learned from reliable sources that an invitation has been extended to Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, to visit Libya and that this visit is expected to take place shortly. This invitation was extended to them considering that they are from Fatah. This invitation was extended following a meeting between representatives of Fatah and Libya in a European capital and was the first meeting to be held between the two sides since the rupture of relations between the PLO and Libya. The meeting was attended by Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Dam' and the directors of the PLO office in London and Paris. The meeting that was held in the European capital took place following the recent events in Beirut, particularly following what the Al-Murabitun Movement — the leader of which, Ibrahim Qulaylat, has special relations with Libya — has been subjected to.

PLO Condemns Kidnapping of UNRWA Official

JN171710 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] The PLO has strongly condemned the kidnapping of UNRWA Deputy Director Aiden Walsh. In a statement in Tunis yesterday, PLO Spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman said that the PLO holds the Zionist intelligence agents responsible for the kidnapping. He categorically denied that the PLO or any Palestinian was involved in the kidnapping. Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman affirmed that Walsh is playing a major humanitarian role in serving Palestinians in Lebanon and is well-known for his great interest in the Palestinian people's just cause.

INA on Expected PLO Central Council Topics

JN181111 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Amman, 18 May (INA) — The PLO Central Council will meet Tunis on 26 May. This was announced by an official spokesman for PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih in a statement published in the Jordanian newspaper *SAWT AL-SHA'B* [as published] today. The Palestinian spokesman said the PNC speaker will invite PLO Central Council members to attend this meeting. An informed Palestinian source told the INA correspondent here today that the Central Council will discuss a number of current Arab affairs, including Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian action following the Amman agreement reached in February. He added that the Council will also study the ways to confront the challenges facing the Palestinians in the camps in southern Lebanon, the occupation authorities' repressive measures against the Arab citizens in occupied Palestine, and the march of national Palestinian unity.

The PLO Executive Committee formed a new, 55-member PLO Central Council during its 14 December 1984 meeting in Tunis. This Council is considered a link between the PNC and the PLO Executive Committee. It is well known that the PLO Central Council is chaired by Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, and that it comprises PLO Executive Committee members, general secretaries of the popular unions, representatives of organizations accredited to the PNC, 25 independent members, and 3 members representing the Military Council.

The PLO Central Council is authorized to adopt decisions on the issues and affairs presented to it by the PLO Executive Committee, within the framework of PNC resolutions. It is also authorized to discuss and endorse executive plans presented to it. The Council also acquaints itself with the performance of PLO departments and submits the necessary recommendations to the PLO Executive Committee. The PLO Central Council presents a report on its work to every PNC session and has the power to follow up the PLO Executive Committee's implementation of PNC resolutions. The upcoming PLO Central Council meeting in Tunis is the first of its kind after the 17th PNC session held in Amman last November.

Reportage on Palestinian-Israeli Prisoner Exchange

Detainees' Memo to PFLP-GC

JN190940 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
19 May 85 p 24

[Text] Palestinian detainees and prisoners in occupation prisons have sent a memorandum to PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril in which they asked that no Palestinian detainee should be excluded because of his factional affiliation. They also asked for the release of all detainees who fulfill the conditions specified and presented to the occupation authorities by the Front through the Red Cross during the exchange of prisoners which will take place in the next few days. The Front had called for the release of all detainees sentenced to more than 20 years imprisonment and all those who have spent more than 10 years in occupation prisons. However, in the memorandum, the detainees noted that some of their fellow prisoners were excluded from the exchange operation because of their factional affiliation, although the Front's conditions apply to them.

The detainees listed a number of names, including that of struggler 'Umar al-Qasim, member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine's Central Committee, who has been detained since 1968 and who is serving three terms of life imprisonment. The families of the detainees also sent similar messages to all secretaries general of resistance factions, appealing to them to intervene so that no detainee will be excluded because of his factional affiliation.

3 Israelis To Be Freed

NC191811 Paris AFP in English 1807 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Damascus, May 19 (AFP) — Three Israeli prisoners will be swapped for 1,155 Palestinians on Monday, sources close to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) said today. The exchange, dubbed "Operation Galilee," will be carried out simultaneously at noon (0900 GMT) at Al-Qunaytirah, southeast Syria, at Geneva and in the occupied territories, the source said. In Geneva, informed Arab sources said negotiations for the swap, to be conducted under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, had been continuing for several weeks between Israeli authorities and the pro-Syrian PFLP-GC, which is headed by Ahmad Jibril.

Of the 1,155 Palestinian fighters, more than 600 will be released in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and in the West Bank town of Nablus. About 400 will be released in Geneva, coinciding with the handover of the three Israelis, and the remainder will be freed in Syria, the sources said.

On the Palestinian side, two of the prisoners are foreign nationals, they added. They are Ziyad Abu 'Ayn, a Palestinian militant with U.S. nationality, and Kozo Okamoto, a member of the militant Japanese Red Army, now serving a life sentence in a jail in Israel. Okamoto, 37, was jailed for his involvement in a machine-gun attack on passengers at Tel Aviv's Lod Airport in May 1972, in which 26 people died. Ziyad Abu 'Ayn will be released in the occupied territories, while Okamato will be released in Geneva, the sources said. It was not immediately known what would be the final destination for either man. The three Israeli prisoners were captured by PFLP-GC forces in the Bhamdun highlands southeast of Beirut in September 1982, three months after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Prisoners Arrive in Geneva

AU200853 Paris AFP in English 0845 GMT 20 May 85

[Text) Geneva, May 20 (AFP) — Three Israeli planes carrying Palestinian prisoners arrived today from Israel, starting a complex and carefully timed exchange of about 1,150 Israeli-held detainees in exchange for three Israelis. The planes carrying the Israeli prisoners from Damascus were expected momentarily, each carrying one Israeli prisoner. The exchange was negotiated by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Geneva, site of the European headquarters of the United Nations and other U.N. agencies, was to serve as the exchange venue for the Israelis and a number of Palestinians and other Arabs among the detainees. The Palestinians were reported to be in good health. They were to be channeled to Arab capitals from Geneva, and 130 of them were expected to stay in Tripoli, Libya, where all the Palestinians would go initially. Overall, six planes were to land at the western end of the Geneva-Cointrin international airport — a Libyan Airlines Boeing-727 and two Balkan Airlines Tupolev-154's from Damascus, along with the three Israeli planes.

There was one Israeli prisoner in each plane from Damascus. About 40 reporters and six International Red Cross representatives will accompany each prisoner. Reports conflicted as to the exact number of prisoners to be released in Geneva. In Damascus, sources said 394 Arab prisoners had boarded the three planes, while in Geneva, 397 were expected. They were to file from their planes and board the other three aircraft, which were to take them to Arab cities. Almost simultaneously, 758 Palestinians and Arabs were to be released in Gaza, Nablus on the West Bank and Al-Qunaytirah on the Golan Heights. Under the terms of the agreement, the whole six- or seven-hour scheduled trade-off will be so synchronised the third Israeli will be freed only when Arab detainees have reached Tripoli. In Damascus, the three Israelis — Niissim Salem, Yossef Grof and Rezi Shah — were brought blindfolded and in civilian clothes to the airport. They were captured by the Palestinian Popular Liberation Front - General Command (PFLP-GC) in September 1982 in the Bhamdun highlands southeast of Beirut.

Only Mr. Grof was allowed to speak to journalists. He said, "We are happy and quite at ease. We cannot express our joy in words. We are leaving behind Palestinians who are not only friends but comrades." The prisoners were seen off by the Austrian ambassador to Syria, Herbert Grubmayr, the Red Cross delegate in Syria and the number two of the PFLP-GC, Talal Naji.

AL-WATAN Interviews PFLP's George Habash

GF181427 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
17 May 85 p 10

[Interview with George Habash, PFLP secretary general, by unidentified *AL-WATAN* reporter — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: There are those who report that the PFLP entered the Palestinian National Salvation Front under pressure from some Arab parties. Is this true?

Habash: I do not exaggerate when I say that the voicing of these rumors has always been the weapon brandished by the perverted rightist leadership against the democratic and progressive Palestinian forces in general and against the PFLP in particular. Instead of providing the right answer to the current political logic of these forces, particularly at moments of important turning points in our Palestinian revolution's progress, the perverted leadership resorted to well-known demagogic methods in order to cast doubt on the credibility of the forces that oppose the policy of perversion, in keeping with its intensive political information campaign which aims at relieving itself of the responsibility for the crisis which the PLO is going through, and casting this responsibility on Arab forces and parties. The aims of this campaign are evident, particularly following the forfeiture of rights and concessions made by the leadership which was crowned by its enlistment in the U.S. plan following the signing of the 11 February accord.

With regard to our relationship with the Palestinian National Salvation Front, we would like to refer to some of the important stages in the current Palestinian crisis, so that you will detect through them how we — as a popular front for the liberation of Palestine — were the first faction, on the Palestinian and Arab level, to call for the establishment of such a framework to confront the policy of perversion and its symbols. We have not been a party that is merely attacked to this trend.

It is known that following 'Arafat's visit to Cairo, which we met with full denunciation and condemnation — and which was considered a qualitative phase within the context of preparing for perversion within the U.S. solution — we were the first to call for the establishment of a broad national front, which includes all Palestinian nationals forces, institutions, and figures. We made all possible efforts to implement this call. However, the complications which confronted the Palestinian nationalist arena at that time prevented our success in implementing this call. Moreover, as we were connected then — in our capacity as a popular front — by close relations with factions of the Democratic Alliance, we redoubled our efforts so that this call would meet with acceptance and adoption by the factions of the Democratic Alliance. It was possible to achieve this after about 3 months of discussion and dialogue, whereby it was agreed upon in the Aden document by the parties of the Democratic Alliance in March 1984 on the need to work toward building a broad national front which will seek to restore PLO unity on solid nationalist foundations.

Question: What about the Salvation Front now? Is it an alternative to the PLO?

Habash: The effective and serious confrontation of the deviation course in the Palestinian arena is an urgent task which now requires the establishment of a national Palestinian front that works for the return of the PLO to the national line. In fact, this matter requires the concentration and mobilization of all national Palestinian forces within the framework of an effective front that can firmly repel the deviation course and its symbols in the Palestinian arena.

The circumstances surrounding the establishment of such a front have become quite obvious, especially after the dangerous deviation made by the PLO executive leadership by signing the Amman agreement and by entering into the circle of the U.S. and reactionary solutions proposed in the region. It is unacceptable to soften the conflict with this deviating leadership which has abandoned the national Palestinian program and neglected the sole representation of our Palestinian people by the PLO. This requires an organized Palestinian voice that says to the world that the deviating leadership does not represent Palestinian people, their will, aspirations, and objectives, because it has abandoned these aspirations and objectives after signing the Amman agreement. To confront this danger it has become necessary, from the scientific and logical point of view, to gather all national Palestinian forces, which are opposing the deviation and surrender plan regardless of any dissimilarities and differences among these forces. The dispersion of the efforts of the national forces will not contribute to the serious confrontation of the deviation course. Moreover, this deviation will benefit the deviating rightist course and will facilitate its steps to surrender. As for the second part of the question, the political and organizational program of the National Salvation Front provides a clear answer. [The program] affirms that this temporary front does not represent a new PLO or something parallel to it and is aimed at bringing the PLO back to the national line.

Question: In light of the memorandum presented to the Salvation Front by 57 national Palestinian personalities in Jordan calling for holding a PNC exceptional session to overthrow the PLO executive leadership and to bring the PLO back to the national line, do you think that this can be achieved? Will this lead to the formation of a new PLO?

Habash: We welcome the reactions expressed by masses of our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland that rejected the Amman agreement and declared support for the National Salvation Front. In this regard, we refer in particular to the position of brother struggler Bassam al-Shak'ah who considered the establishment of the Salvation Front as an expected and essential step, especially after the surrender positions adopted by the deviating rightist leadership. At the same time we welcome the position of the national Palestinian personalities in Jordan and the step they made which represent a new indication of the correctness of the scientific course behind the formation of the Palestinian National Salvation Front. It has become impossible to convince national forces and personalities of the possibility of the existence of this deviating leadership to lead the Palestinian people, especially since this leadership has neglected the essence of the PLO's national program.

Klibi Says Committee To Visit Moscow, Washington

GF171236 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, has said that the Arab 7-member committee charged with following up the Iraq-Iran war will visit Washington and Moscow next week, within the framework of the task assigned to the committee to make contacts with the UN Security Council permanent member states.

Klibi described the committee's achievements as great.

PLO's Faruq Qaddumi Makes Visit to Romania

For Bucharest reportage of the visit to Romania by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, including his talks with Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Republic, see the Romanian section of the 20 May Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

BAHRAIN

Amir Al Khalifah Receives U.S. Official 17 May

GF170904 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0825 GMT 17 May 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 17 May (WAKH) — The Amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, received here this morning Air Force Lieutenant General John Chain, director of the Bureau of Politco-Military Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, and the delegation accompanying him currently visiting Bahrain.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister, and Charles Brayshaw, charge d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Bahrain.

Commentary Views Saudi Minister's Visit to Tehran

GF191530 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 19 May 85 pp 1, 10

[Editorial]

[Text] Doubtless the visit that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal is making to Iran provides fresh hope for ending the Gulf war. A visit carried out by a Saudi delegation at this high level, for the first time since the conflagaration began, indicates that there actually is progress toward a solution.

Moreover, the talks that Al-Faysal will hold with officials in Tehran within the framework of the GCC countries' initiatives to end the war emphasizes that the GCC countries desire to contribute effectively to the efforts to end the war and achieve security and peace in the region; this is in addition to establishing relations of good-neighborliness between the Arab Gulf countries and Iran, is based on mutual respect, nonintervention in countries' affairs, and mutual interests.

The Arab countries, particularly the GCC countries, have demonstrated much goodwill with respect to Tehran and presented numerous initiatives. They have not been motivated by their own interests or a shortsighted outlook, but rather they have aimed at protecting the interests of all the countries in the region, including those of Iran and its people.

The war has caused the suspension of economic and social development projects in Iran at a time when the Iranian people prepared themselves to reap the fruits of toppling the shah.

The people of Iran believe that the revolution has not achieved its aim so far, since the aim of the revolution was not only the shah's departure, but the results which that departure entails, the most important of which is embodied in development and raising the standard of living of the citizens. However, these people had hardly awakened from their rapture at the shah's departure, when they found themselves in a worse situation. Iran's people have not only lost their hopes of development and progress, but also lost the lives of thousands of their sons, whom they desperately need to build their economy and provide the requirements of development.

We hope that Iran's leaders will find in the Saudi initiative a good opportunity to revert to the rule of reason, end the war, and shut the door to international polarity in the region, the most important condition for which is provided by the war.

KUWAIT

National Assembly Approves Budget Allocations

LD181934 Kuwait KUNA in English 1455 GMT 18 May 85

[By Hassan al-Sayegh]

[Text] Kuwait, May 18 (KUNA) — The National Assembly approved Saturday the budget allocations of KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA), the Ports Public Authority and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development [KFAED] for the fiscal year 1985-1986.

In their discussions of the budgets of the three establishments, the National Assembly members stressed the necessity of Kuwaitization of the staffs of those establishments so as to bridge the gap between Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti employees.

The National Assembly members called for backing KUNA so as to assume its Arab and Islamic role in confronting the Western media, which is controlled by international Zionism that is working for mutilating the Arab image and the Arab causes.

The Assembly members emphasized the extention of the agency's activities all over the world, particularly in North and South America, where Zionism is controlling the media.

They pointed out that KUNA has become a symbol of civilization for Kuwait abroad, due to the complete independence it is enjoying in reporting and in defending the stances of those fighting against colonialism.

The National Assembly members demanded [words indistinct] of the identities and affiliations of reporters when they are appointed at KUNA's bureaus abroad and to train Kuwaiti journalistic cadres so as to enable the agency to shoulder its national responsibilities.

KUNA's budget which was approved by a majority of 36 votes, with three against and one abstention, was put at K.D. [Kuwaiti dinar] 5,663,000, including K.D. 200,000 as revenues which the agency realizes.

The National Assembly also approved recommendations presented by a number of members that the agency covers the activities of the popular establishments and that the official press media, the radio and television, give priority to the news broadcast by KUNA.

The revenues of the Ports Public Authority were estimated at K.D. 29,500,000 and the expenditure was estimated at K.D. 26,870,000. The difference of K.D. 2,630,000 was decided to be added to the state general reserves. When discussing the Ports Public Authority's budget, the National Assembly members called for employing trained Kuwaiti cadres so as not to be dependent on non-Arab workers. The budget of the authority was approved by a majority of 39 votes, with one abstention.

The National Assembly then discussed the budget of Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development showing revenues of K.D. 79 millions and expenditure estimated at K.D. 4,595,000.

The difference between revenues and expenditure, estimated at K.D. 74,405,000 is to be transferred to the state general reserves.

In their discussions of the fund's budget, the National Assembly members called for re-evaluating the loans which the fund extends to countries that adopt stands not harmonious with the causes of the Arab nation, and stressed that all countries which receive loans have to repay them so as the fund can continue to perform.

The National Assembly members stressed that loans should be extended to Arab and Islamic countries in particular, and that the implementation of the fund financed projects should be supervized by specialized experts and technicians of KFAED.

They also called for giving priority to Kuwaiti contractors in implementing the projects financed by loans extended by the fund.

The budget of the fund was approved by a majority of 34 votes, with four against and one abstention.

A proposal to hold the National Assembly sessions from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the holy month of Ramadan was approved by the Assembly members.

The Assembly then approved discussing the issue raised by local newspapers on a robbery of official documents from the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

Minister of Finance and Economy Jasim al-Kharafi said some desks at the ministry have been broken into to steal money and not documents as it had been reported.

The minister added that the case has been referred to the security authorities for investigation.

On the other hand, Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Khalid al-Jumay'an said the reports about the robbery from his ministry were baseless and the whole case was that the employee, who has the keys of a department, was absent so one of the staff broke the door, after informing the officials.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM Views Saudi Minister's Visit to Iran

GF191642 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 19 May 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] A Kuwaiti daily today was pinning hopes on the Saudi foreign minister's visit asserting that "it is for certain that were positive signs beamed by the Iranian side that led the minister to travel to Tehran."

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM noted that several Iranian officials had frequented Riyadh in the past weeks and the Iraq-Iran warfront was relatively calm in the same period with the exception of minor skirmishes.

The paper said that the trip could further reflect Gulf and Arab signs of good intention and hand a direct appeal for an end to the armed confrontation.

The editorial underlined the Arabs constant appeal for peace and Iraq's declared readiness to negotiate a settlement.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Returns from UK, Makes Statement

GF170746 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 17 May 85

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah and the delegation accompanying him returned home from the United Kingdom this morning from an official visit that lasted several days. During this visit, he held talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, and a number of senior British officials. His excellency the minister made a statement to radio correspondent Mahmud ibn Ahmad and to other correspondents in which he said his talks in London centered on bilateral relations and that they dealt with a number of international political issues, foremost being the Middle East issue and the Iraq-Iran war. They also dealt with Britain's role in finding solutions to these problems. He noted that Britain is striving with its European partners to help in finding solutions to these problems. Asked about Britain's readiness to meet with a Palestinian-Jordanian joint delegation, Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah said: Britain's efforts are conducted within the EEC's general policy regarding the Middle East issue and they look toward the future with optimism.

QATAR

Saudi Foreign Minister's Tehran Visit Examined

GF190820 Doha QNA in Arabic 0645 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Doha, 19 May (QNA) — Two Qatari newspapers today expressed the conviction that Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal's current visit to Tehran is an opportunity for Iraq and Iran to make joint efforts toward peace. In their editorials, the papers emphasized that the Iraq-Iran war is the worst thing the Gulf is facing because this war has affected the region's security, economic, and political situation.

The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* said: This visit came at the proper time and hopes are pinned on it that the war, which has lasted so long and the continuation of which constitutes a big threat, will end. The Saudi foreign minister's visit to Tehran will concentrate on issues relating to the region and on the region's security and stability. It will also deal with the means that will probably lead to the success of the moves being made to find a peaceful solution to the devastating war, the paper added. *AL-'ARAB* expressed the belief that the relative relaxation on the warfront in addition to the continued appeals to stop this war enhance the Saudi-Iranian talks in the interest of the region and its security and safety and in the service of Islamic causes.

The newspaper *AL-RAYAH* emphasized the Gulf countries' continued concern with putting an end to the Iraq-Iran war. These countries have been making efforts to stop the bloodshed between the two Muslim neighbors who have greatly suffered from this devastating war, the paper said. *Al-RAYAH* expressed the hope that the Saudi foreign minister's visit to Tehran will open a new door for peace to the region and to end this war which has lasted long, that it will be a beginning for peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq, and end a long period of estrangement because of the war.

In his talks in Tehran, the Saudi foreign minister will concentrate on the means to stop this war, particularly after Iraq accepted the Islamic committee's appeal to stop hostilities on the warfront during the blessed month of Ramadan.

GULF TIMES Welcomes Iraq's Ramadan Cease-Fire

GF180800 Doha QNA in Arabic 0658 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Doha, 18 May (QNA) — The Qatari newspaper *GULF TIMES* today welcomed Iraq's agreement to a cease-fire during the holy month of Ramadan and the blessed 'Id al-Fitr on the condition that Iran abides by this cease-fire.

In its editorial today, the English-language newspaper expressed the hope that Iran will respond to this announcement and cease fire during the month of Ramadan. The newspaper called on the two Muslim countries to put down arms during the great month of Ramadan. It noted that it is painful for Muslims to fight during the month of selflessness. Besides, fighting between a Muslim and his Muslim brother is unlawful. The paper said that the UN secretary general's visit to Iraq and Iran showed that a cease-fire is not impossible to achieve. In this respect, it noted that the two sides, if they stop fighting for 30 days, will probably find that it is better to apply the experience they have acquired from the battlefront in restoring Jerusalem and not in continuing the war between them.

Concluding, the newspaper emphasized that halting fighting during the month of Ramadan is an opportune chance to study this possibility carefully.

SAUDI ARABIA

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi Visits Jeddah 18-19 May

King Receives Al-Qadhdhafi

GF181823 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1805 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Jeddah, 18 May (WAKH) — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Jeddah from Khartoum this evening to perform 'umrah.

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was leading those who received the Libyan leader on his arrival in Jeddah.

The Libyan leader made a brief visit to Sudan, during which he met with Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, after a 3-day vist to Rwanda.

Makes Pilgrimage to Mecca

LD182146 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2120 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Holy Mecca, 18 May (SPA) — His excellency the Libyan president [as received], Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and an accompanying delegation performed the rites of minor pilgrimage this evening.

He was welcomed on arrival at the holy mosque by the secretary of the Office of the Amir of Holy Mecca, Hamad al-Shawi, and a number of senior officials.

Shouts Slogans in Mecca

NC191026 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution and his accompanying delegation performed the minor pilgrimage rites last night. They also said a prayer inside the holy Kaaba. After finishing the minor pilgrimage rites, the brother leader and the masses crowding the place shouted: God is great; victory for the Arab nation; down with the United States, the enemy of Islam; down with Husayn, the enemy of God and the agent of Zionism; and down with Husni Mubarak, enemy of God and Zionist agent.

Cheers were also raised stressing the role played by the 1 September Revolution in spreading Islam and the word of God throughout the world.

Meets With King, Departs

GF191156 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Excellency Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, president of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, held a meeting this afternoon.

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi later left Jeddah this afternoon. He was seen off by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of Mecca, and senior officials and military men.

Riyadh Explosion Kills One Person, Injures Three

LD182041 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Riyadh, 18 May (SPA) — A responsible source at the Interior Ministry has made the following statement:

At 1930 today, a dynamite charge exploded on one of Riyadh's streets. The explosive was of the type used for breaking rocks; it was placed in two trash cans. The incident led to the death of one person; three others suffered injuries.

A technical committee immediately began an investigation into the incident.

Jihad Claims Responsibility

NC191038 Paris AFP in English 1028 GMT 19 May 85

[Excerpt] Beirut, May 19 (AFP) — The extremist Islamic Jihad organisation today claimed responsibility for a dynamite attack in Riyadh yesterday in which one person died and three were injured.

An anonymous caller to a foreign news agency said the organisation had begun to carry out missions intended to shake the Saudi monarchy and claimed that the explosion announced by the Saudi authorities was not the only action it had carried out.

(A Saudi Interior Ministry spokesman said the sticks of dynamite had been hidden in dustbins in a Riyadh street.)

"We have planted several bombs. Some have been thrown onto the side of roads, while the detonation of other bombs has been remote-controlled."

The Jihad spokesman said these explosions were only a "sample" of the operations the group was planning against official bodies in Saudi Arabia.

"Nobody should believe that Saudi attempts at rapprochement with the Islamic Republic (Iran) will make us hesitate in executing our plans," the caller said in an apparent reference to Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's current visit to Teheran.

Reaction to Foreign Minister's Visit to Iran

GF190802 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0555 GMT 19 May 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 19 May (SPA) — The newspaper *AL-MADINAH* said: The Kingdom, led by His Majesty King Fahd, is playing a prominent role in rallying the Arab and Muslim ranks and healing the rift among the parties linked by the righteous religion of Islam, particularly when the Muslims are preparing for the holy month of Ramadan.

The newspaper said the most important role the Kingdom is playing in this direction is its efforts to settle the Iraq-Iran dispute and overcome all obstacles by seeking the interest of Muslims and Islam.

In its editorial, the newspaper *AL-BILAD* said the significance of achieving peace between Iraq and Iran lies in establishing overall stability between the two Muslim countries whose bloody conflict for 5 years has sapped so much money, effort, blood, and potential.

The newspaper *AL-NADWAH* emphasized that the visit that Foreign Minister His Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal began to Tehran and the talks that he will hold during this visit revive the great hope in the hearts of people that the situation in the Gulf region will relax and that the views of the two sides will be brought closer together. This conflict has lasted a long time,has afflicted the two countries and the Muslim nation with great losses, and has drained the potential and energies which the two peoples need. In its editorial today, *AL-NADWAH* said: If the visit sprang from the Kingdom's firm stand to make every possible effort for mediation, we hope that all the parties have understood the grave threats this devastating war is posing, not only to the two countries, but to the entire region and world peace.

The newspaper *AL-RIYADH* emphasized that His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Tehran is part of the considerations of the same family. Whoever says the contrary does not understand the basic interest of the brothers, the paper said. It noted that the Kingdom is honored to be the party that will restore confidence and the principle of reconciliation between the two brotherly countries on whom a war was imposed outside their mutual interest.

In its editorial, *AL-RIYAD* underscored the Kingdom's Arab and Islamic role in creating the best atmosphere in which minor and major issues can be tackled out of its conviction of fraternity and that the strength of the nation lies in its unity and not in its conflicts and differences.

UAE

Iraqi Interior Minister Shakir Visits Abu Dhabi

Arrives in Abu Dhabi

JN181157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 May (INA) — Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister, arrived here this afternoon on a visit to the UAE. In a statement to the INA correspondent in Abu Dhabi, the interior minister said he is carrying a message from President Saddam Husayn to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sutlan Al Nuhayyan dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries.

Meets President's Office Chief

GF181744 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 May (WAKH) — Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE President's Office, met here today with Sa'dun Shakir, Iraqi interior minister, who is currently visiting the Emirates.

During the meeting, which was attended by Hamhudah ibn 'Ali, UAE minister of state for internal affairs, and Taha Rajab 'Arim, Iraqi ambassador to the UAE, bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern were discussed.

Meets With President

GF182024 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 May 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 18 May (WAKH) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a written message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

The message was conveyed today by Iraqi Interior Minister Sa'dun Shakir, who is currently visiting the UAE, during a meeting with the UAE president in Abu Dhabi.

Departs Abu Dhabi

GF190800 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0705 GMT 19 May 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 19 May (WAKH) — Iraqi Interior Minister Sa'dun Shakir left Abu Dhabi this morning after a 1-day visit to the UAE.

Foreign Minister Returns From Morocco 19 May

GF190616 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0525 GMT 19 May 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 18 May (WAKH) — UAE Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah returned to Abu Dhabi from Rabat tonight after a visit to Morocco lasting several days.

In a statement after his arrival, 'Abdallah said he conveyed a message to King Hassan II of Morocco from UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. He said the Moroccan monarch gave him a reply message for the UAE president.

Economic Committee Meets on Reviving Economy

GF181107 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 18 May (WAKH) — The joint economic committee charged with studying the economic situation in the UAE has recommended increasing the UAE's contribution to the federal budget by 10 percent to be used as a reserve.

In a statement to the newspaper *AL-KHALIJ*, published today, the committee's sources said the committee has put forward six proposals to end the economic recession in the country. Among these proposals are: levying income taxes; transferring the UAE federal institutions' income to the government; and settling the contractors and importers' due amounts. The proposals also include making an overall and thorough study of the economic and social situation in the country to put forward practical solutions for the economic recession and reviving the economy.

The economic committee includes representatives from the UAE Cabinet and the Federal National Council. It was formed upon instructions by His Highness UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in his speech to the ordinary session of the Federal National Council last year.

Saudi Foreign Minister's Visit to Iran Analyzed

GF190810 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 May (WAM) — The newspapers *AL-ITTIHAD* and *AL-KHALIJ* described Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Iran as very important. The newspapers expressed the hope that this visit will crown the efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war with success when the Muslim nation is close to the blessed month of Ramadan.

In its editorial, *AL-ITTIHAD* said: Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Tehran is one of the events which is considered important, regardless of its immediate results.

AL-ITTIHAD said that the timing of the visit, which was made in response to an invitation from the Iranian foreign minister, gives it another dimension because the visit is unprecedented since the war started between Iraq and Iran 55 months ago. "The central issue of this visit is the Iraq-Iran war and its consequences on the Gulf arena and on inter-Muslim relations. It is also a continuation and a crystalization of the many efforts that have been made, most importantly the GCC efforts in which our country has had a well-known role," the paper said.

AL-ITTIHAD said it is not a coincidence that this visit comes after Iraq announced its acceptance of the Islamic popular conference's appeal for an overall halt of hostilities with Iran during the month of Ramadan and 'Id al-Fitr, and for Iran to publicly and frankly accept this overall halt of hostilities.

Concluding, the newspaper expressed the hope that this visit will not be the first step on the road "which we, the Arabs and Muslims, hope will not be very long."

In its editorial, the Al-Shariqah based newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* said the Saudi foreign minister's visit to Tehran is very important, not only because it is the first visit by the Saudi minister since 1980, but also because it is a clear indication that there is a possibility that the impasse in all the efforts being made to stop this war which has devastated everything, will be broken. *AL-KHALIJ* warned against overoptimism. No sensible man expects this war to end tomorrow or the accumulating problems to end overnight. What is important is to "cling to every ray of hope" and to try to develop it in order to open the road for ending the war, the paper said.

The newspaper expressed the hope that the efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war will be met by open minds and sincere cooperation which place the supreme interest of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and the Arab nation above all narrow considerations and wounds, and within the real and attainable possibilities; these are based on the principles of good-neighborliness, mutual respect, and the right of every people to make their choice without foreign intervention and in accordance with international law.

Concluding, the newspaper expressed the hope that the next few days of the holy month of Ramadan will carry the tidings to the Muslims that the wound bleeding in their body will stop shortly.

PDRY

Defense Minister Comments on Military Maneuvers

GF200620 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Brother Brigadier General Salih Muslah Qasim, member of YSP Political Bureau and defense minister, described the

"Al-Fajr"maneuver, which was held recently by the Armed Forces of the northern part of the homeland, as successful. He expressed his pleasure that the soldiers of the September [revolution] are using modern arms very well as used by the soldiers of the glorious 14 October revolution.

In an interview with *AL-RAYAH* weekly published by the Defense Ministry, he said he agreed with the leaders of the northern part of the homeland that it is necessary in the future to hold joint maneuvers and joint parades during celebrations held on the anniversaries of glorious September and October revolutions. The brother defense minister explained that the joint maneuvers are of extreme importance and will play a big role in political and ideological awareness of the soldiers to know that they are only soldiers of the great goals of the 26 September revolution and 14 October revolution.

Brother Salih Muslah Qasim said that through the joint maneuvers the soldiers of September and October will feel that their enemy is one and it is the one against which they should aim their arms and their belief will be strengthened in the necessity of defending the homeland's sovereignty and independence.

YAR Education Minister Leaves Aden 17 May

GF171750 Aden ANA in Arabic 1635 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Brother Husayn 'Abdallah al-'Amri, minister of education in the northern part of the homeland, left Aden today. He participated in the work of the joint committee responsible for coordination and the exchange of expertise in the education field between the two parts of the homeland.

Mubarak, Delegation Return From Turkey, Romania

NC181759 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 May 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 May (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, his wife, and the delegation accompanying them returned in God's safety to Cairo this evening after a 4-day visit to Turkey, and after talks that the President held with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu during his stopover at Bucharest airport. President Mubarak arrived at Cairo airport at 1900.

Visit to Romania

For Bucharest reportage of the visit to Romania by President Husni Mubarak, including his talks with Nicolae Ceauscu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Republic, see the Romania section of the 20 May Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Further on Talks With Israeli Delegation

Final Round of Talks Held

NC171310 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Giza, 17 May (MENA) — The final round of Egyptian-Israeli talks was held at the Mena House Hotel in Giza today. The talks, which opened on 15 May, involve experts from both countires in a discussion of several unresolved bilateral problems, including the Tabah issue.

Assistant Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Badawi led the Egyptian delegation, while the Israeli team was led by Avraham Tamir. Today's session lasted for 1 and 1/2 hours. This was preceded by another 1 and 1/2 hours of informal talks.

After the talks, Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi said that both the Egyptian and Israeli delegations had come forward with proposals that they will pass on to their respective governments for a decision. In light of these decisions, the time and venue for another round of talks will be fixed. Badawi reaffirmed that the date will be set on the basis of the final decisions made by each government. He also stressed that Egypt's position on all the topics discussed is clearly defined and well-known.

David Kimche said that the Egyptian-Israeli talks are designed to achieve better bilateral relations. He expressed his belief that the talks have progressed in this direction. He added that the atmosphere of the talks was positive and very cordial and that each side sought progress in the talks in order to achieve better bilateral relations.

Kimche stated that several bilateral issues were raised during the talks, including the Tabah issue and other topics already agreed upon, but whose implementations are in need of review. Kimche also stated that the two delegations have reached a stage where they can submit proposals to their respective governments. He added: The talks will continue and will resume shortly. This is only a respite so that we can submit reports to our governments following agreement on some topics.

Kimche said: We reached a stage where each delegation could submit recommendations to its government. When each government decides on these recommendations, the talks will resume.

Kimche explained that the Tabah talks were exploratory and that each delegation sought clarifications from the other on the subject.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Egyptian delegation said that the talks were constructive and useful as far as clarifying the two countries' views on the outstanding problems between them.

It has been learned that several proposals have been formulated on bilateral issues and problems, including questions on the Canada camp, the Dayr al-Sultan Monastery, the Coptic College, and topics related to bilateral relations. The proposals will be referred to the respective governments for their views on them.

It has also been learned that the Egyptian-Israeli liaison apparatus will hold a meeting within the next few days. The Egyptian delegation will be headed by Brigadier General Faruq Lajab and the Israeli delegation by Brigadier General (Dov Sion). Topics within their jurisdiction will be discussed during the meeting.

Israeli Delegation Departs

NC192037 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 May (MENA) — The Israeli delegation led by Avraham Tamir left Cairo for home this evening after having participated in 5 days of talks.

Abu Ghazalah Comments on Armament, Training Plans

NC191653 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, held an expanded meeting this afternoon attended by commanders and officers representing the various services of the Armed Forces. Today's session was part of the Army commander in chief's scheduled meetings with Armed Forces personnel.

During the 2-hour meeting, a review was conducted of the political situation in the area, possible developments in the near future, and the impact of such developments on the balance of power in the region.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah then declared that the 1984-85 Armed Forces' armament and training plans have succeeded in attaining the principal desired objectives. He underlined the most prominent accomplishments achieved by the war production plan.

At the end of the meeting, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah congratulated the conferees on the advent of the month of Ramadan. He asked them to convey his greetings to all men in the Armed Forces and to urge them all to elevate their combat efficiency.

Son Sann, Delegation Begin Visit to Cairo

Arrive 19 May

NC190702 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 May (MENA) — Cambodian Prime Minister Son Sann and his accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo this morning for a 4-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, he will hold talks with Egyptian officials on ways of strengthening bilateral relations in all fields. He was welcomed by Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister and minister of higher education and scientific research.

Talks Begin With 'Ali

NC191219 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 May (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and Cambodia opened this morning at the Cabinet headquarters in Cairo. Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali led the Egyptian delegation, while Cambodian Prime Minister Son Sann led his country's representatives. The Cambodian delegation included Defense Minister Im Chhudet, Information Minister Bun Say, and Social Affairs Minister Son Soubert. The Egyptian delegation included Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister and minister of higher education and scientific research; Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Dr Amal 'Uthman, minister of social insurance and social affairs; and Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

The talks featured a review of Middle East and Southeast Asian affairs, as well as a discussion of ways to consolidate bilateral relations and cooperation in all fields. After the talks, Al-Sharif said the Cambodian prime minister will hold a news conference tonight. This will follow the banquet that Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will host in his honor.

'Source' Details Talks

NC191624 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 May (MENA) — During his talks with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today, Cambodian Prime Minister Son Sann emphasized his country's support for Egypt's drive to resolve the Palestinian question and to conduct a dialogue with the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, an authoritative source at the Prime Minister's Office reported.

The source added that the Cambodian prime minister had expressed his country's support for the nomination of Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, to the post of UN commissioner general in charge of refugee affairs. The source said that Son Sann expounded upon the situation in his country and the efforts of his government to repulse the offensives launched against the refugee camps there. The Cambodian prime minister requested Egypt's support for his country's cause before the world organizations, particularly before the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement, and the United Nations. He also asked Egypt to support and help his country to occupy its permanent seat in the UN Organization.

The source pointed out that Kamal Hasan 'Ali reiterated Egypt's recognition of the Government of National Coalition in Cambodia under Son Sann. The prime minister underlined Egypt's continuing efforts in support of Cambodia within Africa and the Nonaligned Movement. Egypt, the prime minister added, will also support the issue of Cambodia in the upcoming UN session.

Japanese Friendship Delegation Visits Cairo

Arrives 17 May

NC172135 Cairo MENA in English 2120 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Cairo, May 17 (MENA) — The chairman of the Japanese-Egyptian Friendship Society and his accompanying delegation arrived here tonight for a four-day visit.

During the visit, the Japanese delegation will meet with President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

The delegation will also have talks with Dr. 'Abd al-Qadir Hatim, supervisor-general over specialized national councils and chairman of the Egyptian-Japanese Friendship Society, on promotion of friendship and cooperation ties between the two countries in various fields.

Meets With Ghali

NC191901 Cairo MENA in English 1823 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, May 19 (MENA) — State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali conferred today with the visiting Japanese-Egyptian Friendship Society delegation on the Middle East situation, and Egypt's efforts and contacts to push forward the peace process.

They also discussed the Palestinian cause and efforts exerted to stop the Iraq-Iran war and bilateral cooperation, especially in Egyptian development projects to which Japan contributes.

Press Conference Held

NC192052 Cairo MENA in English 2030 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, May 19 (MENA) — The chairman of the Japanese side to the Egyptian-Japanese Friendship Society said that he discussed with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali the possibility of encouraging Japanese investment in Egypt.

At joint press conference with Dr. 'Abd al-Qadir Hatim, supervisor general over the specialized national councils and head of the Egyptian side to the society, the chairman of the Japanese side said that the talks with the premier were fruitful and useful.

Dr. Hatim said that the two sides stressed the need to encourage Japanese investment in Egypt, surmount obstacles impeding it and to exchange missions and expertise between the two countries in all fields.

He added that the two sides discussed the possibility of issuance of a joint Egyptian-Japanese newspaper.

The chairman of the Japanese side had arrived in Cairo on Friday leading a Japanese delegation of prominent businessmen to discuss promotion of relations between the two countries.

Pakistani Admiral Arrives in Alexandria 18 May

NC181052 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Alexandria, 18 May (MENA) — Admiral Tariq Khan, commander of the Pakistani Navy, arrived in Alexandria today for a cordial visit with the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Following his arrival, the Pakistani admiral placed a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier in Al-Manshiyah Square. He also met with Vice Admiral 'Ali Tawfiq Jad, commander of the Egyptian Naval Forces.

French State Secretary Baylet Leaves Cairo

NC170933 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0915 GMT 17 May 85

[Excerpt] Jean-Michel Baylet, French secretary of state to the Ministry of External Relations, left Cairo for home this morning after a 1-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, he met with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. They discussed the latest developments in the Middle East and bilateral issues.

Romanian Minister Moraru Departs Cairo 19 May

NC190842 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cairo, 19 May (MENA) — Romanian Industry Minister Mihai Moraru [title as received] left Cairo for home this morning after a 5-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Industry Minister Engineer Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab. During his stay, the Romanian industry minister met with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the ministers of agriculture and trade. He also toured industrial sites in Hulwan and Abu Za'bal.

In a predeparture statement, Moraru expressed his pleasure at having visited Egypt and expressed hope that bilateral industrial cooperation will grow. He added that his tour of industrial areas allowed him to become familiar with Egypt's industrial development.

The Romanian industry minister also voiced his satisfaction with the Mubarak-Ceausescu meeting. He said it was indicative of the strong ties between the two countries.

Egyptian Industry Minister Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, who saw Moraru off at the airport, noted that they discussed all aspects of bilateral cooperation and reached agreement on many points. He added that the Romanian industry minister's visit was a good opportunity to introduce him to Egypt's industrial achievements. This, 'Abd al-Wahhab pointed out, was Moraru's first trip to Egypt.

AL-AKHBAR Analyzes Mubarak-Ceausescu Meeting

NC190712 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0525 GMT 19 May 85

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-AKHBAR* writes today that the Mubarak-Ceausescu meeting was important because it dealt with two subjects. The first was bilateral relations, which are already excellent due to Romania's honorable positions on a number of Arab issues. In this respect, Romania was urged to participate to the greatest possible degree in the industrial and agricultural projects which benefit Egypt's development.

According to the paper, the other subject was Romania's participation in Middle East peace efforts. Romania, *AL-AKHBAR* notes, has an outstanding potential for such participation. This is due to its good relations with the various parties to the Middle East conflict, including Israel. Romania has been playing a major role in Middle East peace efforts over the past few years.

The paper draws attention to reports yesterday that Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and President Mubarak were to discuss the feasibility of holding an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of countries from Western and Eastern Europe. *AL-AKHBAR* concludes that this Romanian proposal is worth considering. We must pay the proper amount of attention to every proposal that seeks to achieve a just peace in the Middle East, a peace that secures the right to self-determination and to an independent state for the Palestinian people.

Commentary Scores Al-Qadhdhafi's Remarks on Army

NC162013 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic
1815 GMT 16 May 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has had fits of madness recently that have made him completely lose his balance. He has been leveling accusations left and right, even at those who back him and support his regime. He has attacked the people's committees, which he created and entrusted to dominate everything in Libya, and even the Libyan embassies abroad, which he calls the people's bureaus. When he attacks the organizations he himself created, he dons the robe of democracy. He claims that he attacks them because they have deviated from the principles set for them and because they have discharged their responsibilities in a way unsatisfactory to the great theoritician and single inventor of policies and regimes.

The real intent of these attacks is to get rid of some of the people in the Al-Qadhdhafi regime who have begun to show promise or intelligence and possess some degree of power within the regime. Al-Qadhdhafi does not want or accept this. Al-Qadhdhafi's attacks on the institutions he has established, or even those he did not, recently extended to the Libyan Army. Certain trumpets of the regime have accused the Libyan Army of being ignorant, corrupt, and reactionary and have leveled at the soldiers and officers such accusations as being devoid of consciousness or conscience. It has reached the point where they have been accused of high treason. These accusations occurred in articles published in the Libyan regime's newspaper *AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR*. The paper called for the destruction of the Army from within, by the revolutionary committees, and from outside, by armed mobs.

Thus, the Al-Qadhdhafi regime has described the Libyan Army, which staged the 1 September Revolution and appointed Al-Qadhdhafi leader, as a group of psycopaths, drug smugglers, slaves of money and posts, and seekers of moral deviations. The regime also said that the Army officers and soldiers have lost their authority, no longer communicate with their people, lack principles, and fail to represent the goals of the masses.

Before discussing the question of why Al-Qadhdhafi is attacking the Libyan Army and leveling such ugly accusations at the officers and soldiers, we first want to ask if Al-Qadhdhafi is unaware of these accusations, if they are true, or if he is ignoring them. How can he ignore such accusations when he does nothing but read the reports of his internal and external intelligence officials about every military and civilian Libyan inside or outside his Jamahiriyah?

If these accusations are true, and he knows it, then why has he kept silent about them? The answer to these questions is invariably the same. Al-Qadhdhafi has other aims — to liquidate the remains of the Armed Forces. These aims have absolutely nothing to do with the accusations leveled at the Army. The motive behind Al-Qadhdhafi's attacks against the Army have absolutely nothing to do with his allegations that he is concerned about the people's authority. We all know, especially the Libyan people, that this authority has never been given, and will never be given, to the people as long as Al-Qadhdhafi and his crazy regime exist.

Also the motive behind this onslaught against the Army cannot be to exercise a form of self-criticism, as certain articles try to suggest. Niehter Al-Qadhdhafi nor his regime has ever been known to be self-critical. To the whole world all Al-Qadhdhafi knows is charlantry, mendacity, hypocrisy, fallacy, and distortion. Why then such a severe attack on the Army?

First, Al-Qadhdhafi knows well that despite all of his attempts to tailor [tasni'] the Army; to buy its loyality; to fragment and dismember it; to dominate it through his relatives, his intelligence organs, and foreign experts; and despite keeping live ammunition away from it, the Libyan Armed Forces still have the ability to overthrow his regime.

Second, as Al-Qadhdhafi's paper which attacked the Army acknowledged, it is an established fact that the Libyan Army, as a national institution, has continued to reject Al-Qadhdhafi's nonsense and humbugs, and the creation of what he calls revolutionary committees, masses society, people's authority, recruiting the cities, and other illogical and unpopular names.

Third, Al-Qadhdhafi realizes that Army attempts to topple him and his regime have not ceased over the years. Indications affirm that these attempts will continue and even increase in number and intensity. These attempts are being joined by certain elements very close to him. Al-Qadhdhafi also realizes that his criminal and lunatic methods of finishing off anyone he suspects of being involved in these attempts will only increase their brothers' and comrades' determination to avenge them, their homeland, and military honor. Perhaps Al-Qadhdhafi's arresting a large number of officers because of intelligence reports is a proof of this.

Fourth, Al-Qadhdhafi knows that with its present structure, which observers say recently included large numbers of high school graduates in the various military colleges, the Army represents a growing threat to his regime. This threat will increase in the future. The Libyan tyrant also knows that the Army officers share with the people the tragedy they are living through under his regime. They also realize the extent of the destruction brought to their lives. In addition, the Army is suffering from the domination of Al-Qadhdhafi's relatives, from (?harrassment by) foreign intelligence organizations, the exorbitant price they pay in lives of officers and soldiers, and in military reputation as a result of the colonel's external military adventures.

These are the real reasons for the rabid campaign that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's organs are launching against the Army. At this stage this campaign is intended to achieve a number of specific goals, including:

1. To purge the Army officers and soldiers whose loyalty to the Al-Qadhdhafi regime is suspect or who may constitute a danger to him in the near future.

2. To intimidate the Army and keep it threatened and accused so that it will not think of revolting against Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. Observers affirm that Al-Qadhdhafi now believes it is necessary to get rid of the Army in order to stay in power and continue his worn-out regime's domination of the Libyan people.

Islamic Leader Urges Ramadan Cease-Fire

JN171816 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1706 GMT 17 May 85

["Text" of 16 May message from Dr Ma'ruf al-Dawalibi, chairman of the Second Islamic Popular Conference Followup Committee, to President Saddam Husayn — read by announcer]

[Text] Saddam Husayn, esteemed president of the Iraqi Republic. We, the Followup Committe of the Second Islamic Popular Conference that was held in Baghdad, seize the opportunity of the arrival of the glorious month of Ramadan and the blessed 'Id al-Fitr by making this appeal at the start of the conference's proceedings in calling for peace through its legitimate methods. We appeal to you in the name of Muslim scholars, intellectuals, and Islamic action leaders and in the name of one billion Muslims to completely halt this fierce war between two Muslim neighboring countries, Iran and Iraq, on land, sea, and air during these holy days. Muslims in the two neighboring countries are today looking up to you so that they may live through their holy month and happy 'Id al-Fitr reassured about their sons on the battlefronts and feel secure about their lives and property in their homes.

It is a great opportunity to appeal to you to make compassion and benevolence prevail during this holy month where Muslims throughout the world turn their faces to their God Almighty and during which their sublime feelings of belief and their hearts unite toward good and peace. The Islamic nation is looking up to you today while you are shouldering this historic, serious Islamic responsibility under your people to apply Islam's constitution, which calls for peace and amity, so that you will be the pioneers of peace and demonstrate the supreme example. History will record such a deep-rooted Islamic stand that will lead to halting the shedding of Muslim blood and preserving Muslim capabilities and resources. This is the supreme jihad. It is a victory for God and his prophet.

It is our great hope that you will order a complete halt to all ground, sea, and air military operations as of midnight on Monday, 20 May 1985, so that you will start your holy month by coming closer to God. This you will be fulfilling the divine goal of resorting to peace and preparting for negotiations as soon as possible in order to achieve a comprehensive, just, and honorable solution to both sides.

[Signed] Dr Ma'ruf al-Dawalibi, chairman of the Second Islamic Popular Conference Followup Committee, in Jeddah on 26 Sha'ban 1405 Hegira, corresponding to 16 May 1985

Saddam Agrees to Cease-Fire

JN171755 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1703 GMT 17 May 85

["Text" of 17 May letter from President Saddam Husayn to Dr Ma'ruf al-Dawalibi, chairman of the Second Islamic Popular Conference Followup Committee — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Esteemed Dr Ma'ruf al-Dawalibi, chairman of the Second Islamic Popular Conference Followup Committee, Jeddah.

I read your letter dated 26 Sha'ban, 1405 Hegira, corresponding to 16 May 1985 in which you called for a cease-fire on land, air, and sea from midnight on Monday, 20 May 1985 and all through the blessed month of Ramadan and the blessed 'Id al-Fitr.

In accordance with Iraq's firm stand, which calls for a just and honorable peace on the basis of Islamic principles and international law; in conformance with our previous initiatives in this regard and our response to the call that was made by your esteemed conference, the Islamic Good Offices Committee, and the international conferences and organizations; out of our concern to avoid shedding Muslim blood whenever the opportunity avails itself; and after studying the matter with my comrades in the command, I would like to inform Your Excellency that Iraq agrees to your sincere call on condition that the other side publicly and explicitly agrees to the cease-fire and abides by it in letter and spirit. We hope, too, that the other side will not use the duration of the cease-fire for the purpose of military mobilization in preparation for a new aggression against our territory. The necessary instructions were given to the Iraqi Armed Forces to abide by this pledge. We shall abide by the cease-fire on land, air, and sea from the referent date and until 1 day after the end of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr.

May God grant you success in serving Islam and Muslims and in calling for peace and good, as our true Islamic religion and our great prophet Muhammad have taught us. Peace and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic and Iraqi Armed Forces commander in chief, Baghdad, 27 Sha'ban, 1405 Hegira, corresponding to 17 May 1985

Saddam Decorates Party Officials, Commanders

JN181523 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has decorated six party officials and Army commanders with the medal of courage for their valor in fighting the Iranian enemy. Muhammad Salih al-'Azzawi, secretary of the Dhi Qar military branch, and Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman al-Duri, secretary of the Basra military branch, were decorated with the medal of courage. Staff Major General Subayh 'Imran Tarafah, commander of the Nasr forces; Staff Major General Husayn Rashid Muhammad, commander of the Al-Faris forces; Staff Brigadier General Iyad Futayyih al-Rawi, commander of the Sa'd forces; and Staff Brigadier General 'Ali Jasim Muhammad, commander of the Muhammad al-Qasim forces, were awarded the same medal.

'Aziz Says USSR Supplies 'All Needed Arms'

LD181043 Kuwait KUNA in English 0919 GMT 18 May 85

[Excerpt] London, May 18 (KUNA) — Iraq strongly refused partial solutions for the ongoing conflict with Iran, and called for U.N. sponsored negotiations to discuss the issue. Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, affirmed to a London-based Lebanese magazine that the Iraqi-Iranian conflict could be solved only by negotiations or international institutions. In an exclusive interview to be published Wednesday in *AL-SAYAD*, 'Aziz stressed that his country is ready to negotiate directly with Iran, and he is willing to meet any Iranian official for discussions over the 55-month old war. Referring to anticipated Iranian attack against Baghdad, 'Aziz threatened that his country would use all kind of weapons it has to defend its soil. Iran is reported to be planning to launch a new offensive against Iraq in the near future. In the meantime, the magazine quoted 'Aziz as denying that his country owns nuclear weapons. However, he noted that the Soviet Union supplies Iraq with all needed arms.

He indicated that Moscow supports a speedy comprehensive solution to the Gulf war and had already called on Tehran to put an end to the fighting. The Iraqi senior official affirmed that his country did not [word indistinct] buy American weapons from the U.S., because he added, according to *AL-SAYAD* "it is difficult and humiliating". However, he disclosed that Iraq might buy U.S. weapons, should Washington accept Iraqi conditions.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,837

JN171701 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 May 85

[Communique No 1,837 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 May 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

As an expression of great Iraq's capabilities, the people's Armed Forces inflict effective blows on the forces of the oppressive clique on all the battlefronts and will continue to do so until they regain their senses and desist from their evil course. This is their only road to salvation.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In reply to the oppressive clique's arrogance and its insistence on prolonging the war; out of the need to cut this oppressive clique down to its real size; as an expression of this clique's impotence and defeat, as well as of the enhancement of Iraq's rights and its decisive victory; to ward off the forces of evil from beloved Iraq; and in implementation of our inspired leader's directives, a heroic force belonging to the Hamzah force began an intrepid raid against enemy positions opposite its positions in the Maysan sector on the night of 16-17 May. As a result of the quick surprise attack, our force succeeded in reaching enemy positions, killing 50, wounding others, and destroying all of the enemy's positions, hardware stockpiles, military hardware, weapons, and several vehicles, in addition to capturing those who remained in their positions. After completing their mission in accordance with the predetermined plan, the force returned safely to its positions, proud of its victory. Ambulances were seen evacuating enemy losses. Glory to the soldiers of the IV Army Corps and pride to the sons of our Armed Forces on all battlefronts. We thank God for his victory.

2. The men's enthusiasm, courage, and high ability in terms of planning and execution become apparent every day. In an accurate operation which demonstrated the courage of the Iraqi soldier, the spirit of adventure he enjoys, and his efficient performance, several heroic groups belonging to the hero Khalid ibn al-Walid knights attacked an infantry bridge in the East Tigris operational sector. The enemy had erected this bridge for carrying out its hostile objectives.

The heroic groups took control of the 500-meter bridge, after which they safely towed it back to their positions. Another heroic patrol of our courageous men also safely towed another 80-meter enemy bridge back to its positions. May God bless the courageous men.

3. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out successful raids against enemy troop concentrations and positions in the East Tigris operational sector, dealing them effective blows and destroying eight enemy powerboats, nine personnel assembly points, and four infantry positions. All our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. Formations of our forward units dealt fierce artillery blows to selected enemy positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct hits, and inflicting on the enemy losses in life and equipment. Our formations also killed 10 enemy troops, wounded 10 others, and destroyed several infantry positions and one medium-caliber machinegun position, and set two enemy vehicles on fire.

5. The courageous artillery men opened fire on enemy targets in the East Basra operational sector, killing two enemy troops and wounding three others, and destroying one enemy observation post and the infantry position whose occupants were killed.

6. One of our courageous patrols operating in no-man's-land in the East Tigris operational sector sighted an enemy boat carrying five enemy troops and opened fire on the enemy boat, killing all its occupants and destroying the boat. Another of our courageous patrols in the same sector captured weapons the enemy left behind in previous battles.

7. Three observation posts were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 May 1985

Communique No 1,838

JN181645 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 May 85

[Communique No 1,838 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 May 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With high morale and overwhelming superiority, our brave Armed Forces are proceeding from one victory to another over the tyrant clique's forces. They are determined to continue their sacrifices in defense of the country's territory, the people's achievements, and future generations, affirming with their capable, distinguished performance that they will remain the unbeatable people's Army that will defeat evil and evildoers.

The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. In order to continue Iraq's blockade around the Iranian clique's oil resources, so so as to prevent this criminal gang from using its only source of financing its aggression against Iraq, our brave pilots launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near Khark Island at 2215 [1815 GMT] yesterday. They scored an accurate, effective hit and returned with their planes, safe and triumphant.

2. Our brave pilots continue to prove their ability to inflict severe blows and great losses on the tyrant clique's forces through their daring operations against enemy units. They are killing the remnant forces and transforming their equipment into heaps of burned junk. As of this evening, our pilots carried out 52 combat missions in the sectors east of Basra and east of Tigris, after which they returned safely to base.

3. Our heroic helicopter pilots are lending strong support to our ground units. They carried out intensive blows on enemy positions and troop concentrations east of Tigris. They destroyed three enemy boats, killing all their occupants; three concentrations; and a number of enemy positions and vehicles. They returned safely with their planes, praise be to God.

4. Several of our forward formations at various times launched concentrated artillery strikes against selected enemy targets in the Maysan sector, scoring effective hits. The enemy suffered losses in men and equipment, and fires were created in enemy targets.

5. Six enemy men were sighted opposite our units positions in the central sector. Our units engaged them, killing two, while the rest fled. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our units destroyed one hardware stockpile.

6. One infantry position was destroyed and one enemy soldier was hit east of Basra.

7. Our forces laid an ambush in the northern sector for a group of enemy soldiers. Two enemy men were killed, others were wounded, and two serviceable rifles were captured.

8. An enemy patrol attempted to advance toward our positions east of Tigris. Our units opened fire, killing or wounding a number of the patrol members. The others fled. In the same sector, one of our brave units captured a large enemy boat which was taken to our forward positions.

9. The tyrant, criminal clique's forces shelled Mandali's suburbs, Khurmal, and Al-Kazimiyah suburbs with heavy artillery.

10. New groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with one of our units at the front. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 May 1985

Communique No 1,839

JN191654 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 May 85

[Communique No 1,839 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 May 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With a spirit of great confidence in continuous victory and pride in the brilliant present and prosperous future of Iraq and our great people, the Armed Forces heroes affirm that humiliation and defeat will be the lot of the tyrant clique as long as the Iraqis hold rifles that are pointed at the chests of the covetous invaders.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Once again the victorious soldiers of justice emphasize their great ability, in terms of planning and performance, to destroy the enemy's military power and means of aggression that are being used to achieve its evil intentions against our territory and great people. A force from the Khalid ibn al-Walid heroic cavaliers discovered a 1,250-meter-long bridge which the enemy set up for aggression in the East Tigris sector. In an impetuous attack, the force's cavaliers swooped down on the bridge and in a lightning battle in which the men's courage was manifested they managed to silence the tyrant clique's forces who were defending it. They then dismantled the bridge and evacuated their positions safely and triumphantly. May God bless the brave men, the cavaliers of Khalid, and all men of our Armed Forces.

2. Our Air Force raided the tyrant clique's positions and troop assembly points in the Maysan and East Tigris sectors, dealing them devastating blows. They managed in 74 bold combat missions to inflict large losses in men and equipment and to set their targets on fire before they returned with their aircraft safe and triumphant, under God's care and protection.

3. In splendid sorties the helicopter gunship cavaliers carried out bold raids on the tyrant clique's remnants and euqipment in the East Basra and East Tigris sectors, destroying six infantry positions, three troop assembly points, four boats with their occupants killed, and one bunker, and setting one vehicle on fire. The helicopter cavaliers returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. One of our brave patrols in the northern sector of the operational theater was carrying out its duty in no man's land when it managed to kill and seize the weapons of three of the tyrant clique's troops. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our forward units engaged enemy positions with various wepons, destroying one infantry position and setting one vehicle on fire.

5. In concentrated strikes our forward units directed their fire at the tyrant clique's positions and troop assembly points in the central sector, destroying two infantry positions, killing the personnel in one of these positions, burning two hardware stockpiles, and killing one enemy soldier.

6. Our forward units engaged enemy positions and vehicular movements in the Maysan sector with all types of weapons,

destroying one machinegun emplacement and killing its occupants, setting one vehicle on fire, and killing one enemy soldier. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from the hit positions.

7. One of our forward untis pounded several enemy positions opposite our positions in the East Basra sector with artillery, scoring direct hits.

8. Fresh groups of Iranian civilians sought refuge with one of our forward units at the battlefront. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

9. The tyrant clique's forces shelled the village of Choman with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 May 1985

Youth Minister Returns to Baghdad From PRC

JN182010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1932 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May (INA) — Iraqi Youth Minister Nuri Faysal Shahir returned to Baghdad tonight after a visit of several days to the PRC. The minister told INA that he held meetings and talks with PRC officials on issues related to sports and youth problems. His talks dealt with entrenching and developing cooperation in the fields of sports and youth welfare and sending Chinese coaches to train Iraqi swimming teams.

Industrial Workers Delegation Leaves for GDR

JN200746 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0638 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 May (INA) — Salih Matar, president of the General Trade Union of Oil and Petrochemical Workers, left for the GDR today leading a delegation to participate in the meetings of the international federation of oil, petrochemicals, and similar industries conference to begin tomorrow.

The federation will hold a 3-day discussion on issues related to the health and safety of workers and the federation's activities this year. It will also discuss the pertinent activities of the organizations and unions that are participating in this conference.

King Husayn on Arab Situation, U.S. Visit

JN200645 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Kuwait — His Majesty King Husayn has said that the search for the means to regain territory and save the kinfolk is continuing. He said that attempts to achieve this objective through a political solution have been going on for a long time, and that this objective is not impossible, because the Jordanian-Palestinian accord is a positive development. He said that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement had been achieved and that work through consultations was proceeding in a clear and frank way.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-QABAS* published today, his majesty said: The time is now suitable to present our cause and to strongly defend it. We hope that Arab unanimity will be achieved in order to reinforce accord, cooperation, and understanding, but so far Arab unanimity has not been achieved. In the absence of this, we find ourselves facing obstructions from work in the Arab arena. It is our duty to present and defend our cause. The situation should not remain like this.

His majesty said: The world believes that this may be the last opportunity to deal with reality on the ground, due to the possibility that the situation will deteriorate in a way that will affect the entire world. The king pointed out that his recent visits to the Arab countries aimed at discussing the current situation, as well as the challenges which face us. He said that these visits are not unique or new, because every now and then we pay visits to fraternal countries in the region, in addition to our visits to world capitals.

His Majesty said: My visit to the United States has been scheduled for a long time. This visit will be an opportunity to continue the talks which we held with the U.S. secretary of state. Our talks with the U.S. secretary were frank and our meeting with him spared us many efforts.

Reportage on Visit to Amman by Yasir 'Arafat

Talks With King Husayn

JN171919 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] His majesty the king held talks this evening at Al-Nadwah Palace with the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr Yasir 'Arafat.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Dr Hazim Nusaybah, Director of General Intelligence Tariq 'Ala' al-Din, and Secretary of the Royal Court Raja'i al-Dajani. On the Palestinian side, the talks were attended by Speaker of the Palestine National Council Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, and members of the PLO Executive Committee.

Joint Action Discussed

JN181741 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 18 May 85

[Excerpt] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar and Jordan's King Husayn held talks last night. The talks dealt with Palestinian-Jordanian efforts in the Arab and international arenas — efforts that are based on the Jordanian-Palestinian joint agreement. More in the following correspondent's dispatch from Amman:

[Begin recording] A meeting was held between brother leader Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, and His Majesty King Husayn in Al-Nadwah Palace yesterday. The meeting was interrupted by a working dinner.

The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih and PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, Iliya Khuri, Brigadier General 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, and Jawid al-Ghusayn, Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan, and Brother Jamal al-Surani. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Zayd al-Rifa'i, the prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of court; Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, deputy prime minister; Dr Hazim Nusaybah, minister of state for prime minsitry affairs; Tahir al-Masri, minister of foreign affairs; General Tariq 'Ala' al-Din, director of the general intelligence; and Raja'i al-Dajani, secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court.

The two sides made an assessment of the Palestinian-Jordanian joint delegation's visit to the PRC. The two sides also discussed steps of joint action in the Arab and international arenas. [End recording]

Palestinian Refugee Aid

GF171330 Doha QNA in Arabic 1258 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Amman, 17 May (QNA) — It was reported here today that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has succeeded through his latest contacts with some Arab countries in acquiring $6 million as a contribution from these countries in meeting the deficit which the UNRWA is suffering from. The QNA correspondent in Amman has learned that the EEC countries, Japan, and the United States will supply the remaining deficit in the UNRWA budget which amounts to $24 million. It is noted that the UNRWA recently threatened to cut back the services which it gives to Palestinian refugees, particularly in the field of education, as a result of this deficit unless it is met by the countries of the world.

Chairs Palestinian Fund Meetings

JN181747 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has chaired meetings of the Palestinian National Fund that began at the

PNC headquarters in Amman yesterday. The Palestinian National Fund's board includes a number of Palestinian economic functionaries. During the meeting, the conferees made an assessment of the PLO's financial situation, the means to support the Fund's resources, and rationalizing expenditures in accordance with the recommendations of the recent PNC session held in Amman.

Information Minister Says No Negotiations Without PLO

GF161140 Doha QNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] Kuwait, 16 May (QNA) — Jordanian Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib has emphasized that his country will not participate in any conference on the Middle East issue without the participation of the PLO, which must take part in any negotiations on the Palestinian issue. In a statement made in Amman to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, the Jordanian minister said that Jordan adheres to its position on the need for convening an international conference in which all concerned parties will participate to discuss the crisis and find a just and lasting solution to it. Al-Khatib denied recent reports on the possibility that Jordan will form a confederal Palestinian-Jordanian government in order to begin negotiations with Israel. He asserted that such reports and surmises are not true.

Foreign Minister Briefs Visiting Parliamentarians

JN181614 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Amman, 18 May (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has affirmed that a comprehensive, just, and peaceful solution to the Palestine question requires an international peace conference under UN supervision with the attendance of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties to the conflict, including the PLO. This came during the minister's meeting today with the Democratic Parliamentary Federation delegation led by Jean-Noel de Lipkowski currently visiting Jordan within a tour of several Arab countries. The foreign minister explained Jordan's viewpoint on current international issues, particularly the Middle East cause. He also explained the articles of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement reached on 11 February in order to achieve a comprehensive and just solution to the Palestine question.

Prince Hasan Receives Guests

JN181615 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Amman — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received at his office today the Democratic Parliamentary Federation delegation led by de Lipkowski, member of the French National Assembly, who is currently visiting Jordan. The Democratic Parliamentary Federation was established in 1978 at the initiative of FRG Chancellor Kohl and British Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher. This organization includes all the democratic countries and nonsocialist and noncommunist parties. It also includes as its members U.S. President Reagan for the Republican Party, Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone for the ruling Japanese party, and the Canadian prime minister for the Canadian Conservative Party .

AL-AKHBAR Examines Shultz-Husayn Talks

PM200915 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 15 May 85 p 3

[Isma'il al-Naqib report from Jordan: "What Took Place Between King Husayn and the U.S. Secretary of State"]

[Text] What are the results of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to Jordan, his last stop on the tour which also took him to Israel and Jordan? What went on between him and King Husayn of Jordan? What were the motives of King Husayn's visit in the past few days to some Arab capitals including Baghdad, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia? Before answering these questions I think it is necessary to point out that the Shultz tour was a tour of ideas. It was not a shuttle tour shrouded in secrecy or mystery. It came as a result of President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States and the Egyptian initiative regarding the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation to peace negotiations to settle the Palestinian question.

I heard from a responsible source in Amman that President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States persuaded the United States to place the Middle East question at the top of the State Department's list of priorities during President Reagan's second term of office.

The U.S. secretary of state's visit was one of the results of the Egyptian president's visit to the United States. He had received many invitations to visit the region but he had turned them all down. We can say that the Jordanian monarch was already aware of the ideas which the U.S. Administration wanted to convey through its secretary of state before his arrival in the region because Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri had earlier visited Washington and heard these ideas. Summed up, these ideas mean that the United States agrees to meet with a Jordanian delegation including Palestinians not connected with the PLO.

The Jordanian monarch and the U.S. secretary of state discussed these ideas when they met in Aqaba. They also discussed nomination of some PNC members who are not PLO members. Israel rejects that approach. Reports emanating from Israel speak of disagreement between the Israelis and the U.S. secretary of state over this particular point. Israel believes that the United States should keep the promise made when Henry Kissinger was secretary of state, that the United States would not talk to the PLO, which he described as a terrorist organization, unless the PLO recognizes Israel. That Kissinger undertaking, to which his government committed itself, was rejected by the PLO, Egypt, and all the Arab states. The Arab view is that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

To end the stalemate and break the deadlock, the 11 February agreement was concluded in Amman between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat. That agreement covers cooperation between the two sides and accepts UN resolutions on the Palestinian question. It also calls for a Palestinian state and speaks of confederation with Jordan and the "peace for land" principle.

Both President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn believe that the time has come for the United States to play its part in settling the issue, particularly since President Reagan's September 1982 initiative did call for the setting up of a Palestinian state in a confederation with Jordan. They also believe that negotiations should begin on this matter, but there remains the problem of who represents the Palestinians. That problem was discussed by President Husni Mubarak in the United States and officials of all three states visited by the U.S. secretary of state, and will be discussed by King Husayn in Washington at the end of this month when he meets with President Reagan.

The Egyptian president's view, expressed during his talks with U.S. officials in Washington and with the U.S. secretary of state in Cairo, is that talks should be held with responsible Palestinian personalities who can guarantee implementation of decisions because it would be illogical to talk to elements acceptable to the United States and Israel but lacking the authority to implement decisions. The Jordanian foreign minister also spoke in the same vein during his recent visit to the United States.

It was finally agreed to nominate some PNC members who are not PLO members for the first round of talks, leaving the question of PLO participation to the future and to what the delegations participating in the talks agree upon in the early rounds of negotiations. The U.S. secretary of state's statement at the end of his visit to Jordan in which he spoke of obstacles, was connected with this point because the specific names of the Palestinians who would take part in the negotiations could not be determined. King Husayn of Jordan believes that his 11 February agreement will have to try to break the deadlock and promote a solution, and that the Arabs should fully support his position and extend support and assistance to him. That explains his lightning visit to Baghdad, Riyadh, Kuwait, and Manama. The king believes that if this opportunity is lost then the prospects for the future will be grave, and also that his country has done its duty to its nation and the most important cause of Palestine.

A well informed source in Amman has told me that King Husayn spoke in Riyadh, Kuwait, and Bahrain of the necessity to convene the already posponed Arab summit conference and said that the aid allocations for Jordan which some Arab states have not paid should be paid.

King Husayn is also trying to secure full Arab support for his agreement with Yasir 'Arafat because he has gone all the way in his cooperation on that in order to confirm his good will. Perhaps King Husayn's decision that Yasir 'Arafat should lead the Jordanian-Palestian delegation carries the meaning of full agreement between the two sides. The delegation visited the PRC in the past few days in its capacity as one of the UN Security Council permanent members.

The strange thing is that the Soviet Union has refused to receive such a delegation. The Kremlin leaders say that they are willing to receive separate delegations. The efforts and exchanges of ideas continue, all for the purpose of fulfilling the principle of "exchanging Arab land for peace with Israel."

The next, but not the last, meeting will be the one to be held by King Husayn on his visit to Washington. Perhaps he will be carrying with him the proposed Palestinian names from the PNC. We just have to wait and see in Amman.

Briefs

New Korean, Sudanese Ambassadors— Amman, 18 May (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri today received Dong Soon Park and a copy of his credentials as ambassador of the Republic of Korea to the Royal Hashemite Court. Later, he received Mahjub Mustafa Ramadan and a copy of his credentials as ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Sudan to the Royal Hashemite Court. [Text] [*Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 18 May 85 JN*]

Possible Return of Syrian Deterrent Forces Viewed

NC181858 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Several political figures today welcomed the possibility that the Syrian Deterrent Forces [SDF] may return to Beirut. Dr Salim al-Huss [minister of labor and education] said there is nothing strange in the possibility that help from the SDF will be sought to regulate conditions in Lebanon. I do not believe there is anyone who has reservations about this possibility, he said, or who wants to discount it except those who are benefitting from the continuing state of chaos.

'Adil 'Usayran [minister of national defense and agriculture] said: We wholly welcome the return of the SDF. We see their arrival as a good thing for the interest of the country, for they will come to serve Lebanon.

Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, also welcomed the return of the SDF. He said that if the Lebanese Government fails to provide comfort for every citizen and to give each one his equal right, then I say frankly that I welcome the SDF for a specified period under UN auspices.

Karami Optimistic About 'Imminent' Political Solution

NC191420 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has described the present period as delicate, serious, and one requiring further awareness and unity. At the same time, he affirmed his optimism at the existing signs of rapprochement among the Lebanese. He pointed out that a political solution has become imminent. Speaking after the conclusion of several meetings held in Tripoli to deal with the situation in the north in particular and with Lebanon in general, Prime Minister Karami said: We have heard voices coming from the eastern sector advocating a new approach and a return to principles and aims that emphasize the need to maintain unity among the people, land, and institutions and that support the Arab identity of Lebanon. Agreement on the course and policy to follow will lead to an achievement of unity among the people.

The prime minister added: We are optimistic, because there are signs of rapprochement and unity in positions. I have heard calls for assistance from Syria and its deterrent forces. These calls stem from a feeling that salvation depends on reconciliation and that reconciliation depends on agreement. As long as the positions become close, a political solution then is imminent.

Prime Minister Karami affirmed that the legal authorities are the framework through which it is possible to formulate a united position. He said that the dispatch of the deterrent forces is not an end in itself, but a means to achieve security and to put a final end to anarchy and chaos. This demand by some can better be met through reconciliation, he noted. Regarding the anticipated Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting, the prime minister said that he cannot confirm a date for the summit. Prime Minister Karami congratulated the Muslims on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan.

Walid Junblatt Speaks to Army's 11th Brigade

NC171800 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 17 May 85

[Speech by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt to officers and men of the 11th Brigade in Hammana Barracks on 17 May — recorded]

[Text] We recall the well-known declaration which will remain the staging point for creating a nationalist army for which we all long in the political and military leadership — an army which will resist the Israeli enemy together with its fellow Lebanese national resistance fighters — an army which will not be an instrument for a regime, a tyrant, a person, or a group to destroy the interests of the popular masses and the interests of the poor people in Lebanon — an army which will have a clear nationalist and Arab guidance once and for all. When this military establishment was set up, it was created to serve the interest of a specific class, and a specific group when the Phalangist Party assumed power. Certain events developed then, and the army was involved in internal conflicts. The army attacked Beirut's suburb and the mountain areas. It attacked the poor people in the suburb and the mountain for the sake of one ambitious person and of a rancorous party, allied with Israel and NATO.

We are still at the beginning of the road, although some indications show the contrary. Although some of our colleagues failed to carry out their duties, I believe that you all understand that it is necessary now to bring everyone together into the nationalist Arab military fold to maintain the struggle against the Phalangist Party, against the rancorous Army in Suq al-Gharb and Beirut, and against the Phalangists everywhere. We must also unify our efforts to arrive at a nationalist democratic political system from which alone stems a nationalist army — a popular army at the Lebanese level, an army which will defend the people's interests, not the interests of the rancorous ruling communal bourgeoisie. This is what we long for. Let us all turn over a leaf of the past and let us unify our efforts in Hammana, Beirut, and everywhere to maintain the struggle for the sake of a democratic secular Lebanon and for a nationalist progressive army — a popular army at the national level — so that this army will actually have the much longed for nationalist role, as other Arab armies, specifically the Syrian Arab army.

The declaration which was issued by the Army in Hammana will remain the main staging point for improving conditions for the Army, for improving the Military Command in the Army, so that we can actually create the nationalist army which we long for. I thank you for this invitation and I thank you for your effective participation along the combat fronts. I ask you once again to increase your contribution because the battle was not over. The battle has just begun. We might arrive at a truce, but we are aware of the enemy's hatred and the enemy's ambitions.

Evidently, we discovered the Lebanese Deuxieme Bureau's cooperation with the U.S. intelligence in destroying the Lebanese people. This was not a coincidence or something new. This was exposed by a U.S. newspaper, one of the world's top newspapers. This was another evidence of the agentry of this suspicious bureau which resents the Lebanese people. This bureau is mistaken if it believes that it is immune from the people's punishment and that of the nationalist officers in Lebanon. The heads and proprietor of this bureau will receive their punishment soon, God willing. Thank you. [Applause]

Junblatt Calls for 'Concrete Political Solution'

NC191334 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 19 May 85

[Speech delivered by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt at a memorial service for martyr 'Adil Fayyur in Rashayya on 19 May — recorded]

[Excerpts] We are gathered here today to bid farewell to an honest and sincere colleague of Kamal Junblatt, who devoted himself to the message of the Progressive Socialist Party and the service of the poor working classes. He fought on all fronts for the sake of an Arab Lebanon, and for genuine independence from the system of monopolies, privileges, sectarianism, and suspect alliances with Israel and NATO.

We have come here today to salute the martyrs of the Syrian Arab Army and its eagles [applause] who died in the battle to defend this pure and sacred Arab land and to repulse the enemy. They died while defending the purity of our Arab skies from the arrogance of the Zionist military machine. This valiant stand in the Al-Biqa', the mountains, and everywhere else had a decisive impact on repulsing the enemy and liberating the land from Israel and its agents.

We have also come to declare and reaffirm the need for a concrete political solution in Lebanon. The bases of this solution must lie in eliminating political sectarianism, uprooting the agent Phalangist germ [applause], and bringing to trial those responsible for the massacres, assassinations, and kidnappings committed against the people in the southern suburb, the mountains, Ra's al-Nab', Iqlim al-Kharrub, the south, Al-Shahhar, and everywhere else.

Those responsible for these crimes in the political regime, the Army, and the cursed intelligence service, as well as those who stole the people's money through the suspect deals that have become known, must be brought to trial. Only on these terms will Lebanon achieve stability and independence, that is, achieve political stability through a new and fair political system and achieve independence from suspect alliances and ties with the West and Israel. It will then establish a clear and distinguished foundation for an alliance with Syria.

Syria, with its leadership, Army, party, and President al-Asad, has been and will continue to be the primary supporter of genuine reconciliation in Lebanon. [applause]

We have also come to remind everyone that there can be no solution in Lebanon without a just solution to the Palestinian issue. We stand on the side of our comrades in the Palestinian revolution, in the Palestinian National Salvation Front, in confronting all plans for surrender and liquidation. We have come to salute their magnificent and heroic struggle beside us in our battle against Israel and Lebanese fascism.

Army Command Refutes 'Fabricated Reports'

NC200612 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The Army Command has issued a communique explaining some of the circumstances surrounding the issue raised by *THE WASHINGTON POST*, as well as the fabricated reports broadcast by a local radio station. The radio station reported that the officer who provided the information to *THE WASHINGTON POST* is Captain Yusuf Khadij, who was in self-exile in the United States after suffering the wrath of the Lebanese authorities. The Army Command has declared that Captain Khadij is present in Lebanon. He has never left Lebanon throughout his military career, not on a course, or on leave, or for any other reason. This in itself is proof that this campaign is fabricated and baseless. The Army Command hopes that military organs will not become involved in media campaigns and that the authenticity of every report will be determined before it is published.

Army Denial Called 'False'

NC200645 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] U.S. diplomatic sources have disclosed information, earlier published in *THE WASHINGTON POST*, on the involvement of Lebanese and U.S. intelligence organizations in the bombing operation in Bi'r al-'Abd. The source of the information is Lebanese Army officer Yusuf Khadij, a partner to the regime in its suspicious operations, who is now attending a training course in the United States after being deported from Lebanon. Khadij admitted to *WASHINGTON POST* journalists that the operations conducted by him and other intelligence officers were carried out with the knowledge and guidance of President Amin al-Jumayyil. The Army Command in Al-Yarzi has issued a communique in which it tried to acquit the president. This is to be added to the series of false statements the regime, its organs, and its Ambassador [in Washington] 'Abdallah Abu Habib are trying to make the people believe.

Lebanese Forces Close Office in Israel

NC181159 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1125 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee has released the following statement:

1. Orders have been issued to close the office that represents us in Israel and to recall all its employees.

2. In order to avoid any repetition of what happened in Al-Zahrani in Sidon, and as a gesture aimed at maintaining peace in and around Jazzin, we welcome a rapid deployment of legitimate forces from the Lebanese Army in this region. Such forces should have the confidence of all parties, particularly the residents of Jazzin and the surrounding areas.

They should also have the political backing necessary to maintain security and coexistence in the region. Therefore, we have issued instructions to our forces in Jazzin and the border strip, the majority of which are logistical units, to return to their barracks in Beirut.

3. Our representative on the security committee has been instructed to request an immediate meeting of the committee, at the highest level, to implement an immediate, final, and overall cease-fire. This cease-fire is to cover the area between the Suq-Al-Gharb-'Alayh combat line and the harbor. The committee will also be asked to reopen Beirut's crossing points and to eliminate all traces of division between the two parts of the capital.

Fighting Among Palestinians Occurs Near Sidon

NC180602 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] According to reports from Sidon this morning, tension reigns supreme throughout the Palestinian camps. This follows last night's fierce fighting in the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah camps between pro- and anti-'Arafat gunmen. A gunman from the anti-'Arafat group was killed in the fighting. Amal gunmen have taken up positions in Harat Sayda and Al-Ghaziyah, where they have established roadblocks. They are preventing all non-Amal gunmen from entering the area. Meanwhile, unidentified gunmen killed Ghalib Hamdi, the official in charge of the pro-Iraqi ALF intelligence apparatus.

Reportage on Factional Fighting in Beirut Areas

Amal, Palestinian Gunmen Clash

NC192145 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] The relative calm that dominated the combat lines from Primo to Al-Tayyunah is now being marred by intermittent rocket and machinegun fire. 'Ayn al-Rummanah, Al-Sinawbarah, and Al-Za'tar have been receiving mortar shelling for some time. The Primo-Al-Tayyunah combat line experienced a security setback at 2245 tonight when gunmen opened artillery and rocket fire against Army positions along this line. This prompted Army forces to return fire. Artillery duels took place earlier on the Al-Tayyunah, Al-Tanshi'ah, and Sannin lines and continued for approximately 1 hour. Clashes involving rockets and machineguns are also occurring between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in the area of Al-Fakihani. Amal gunmen kidnapped three dissident Palestinians in the Al-Da'uq area at 2300, and Palestinian gunmen soon surrounded the area. Tension spread to the Al-Fakihani area, where clashes have been taking place since 2300. Our correspondent has reported that the Palestinians have declared a state of alert in their various camps.

Palestinians, Shi'ites Clash

NC200609 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0520 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Has the camps battle begun and have the contact lines moved to [Beirut's] southern suburb? Have the new combat lines in Sabra and Shatila, the airport road, the Kuwaiti Embassy perimeter, and the sports stadium become the center of fighting? What happened at midnight last night and developed as the day broke indicates that the Shi'ite-Palestinian confrontation has begun, and that the battle, several times postponed, broke out today. Despite the ferocity of the clashes, no one can predict whether they will continue or cease. What has happend so far?

The latest reports available to security sources indicate that the forces of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine took control of the sports stadium area at 0400 this morning. These forces advanced and reached the perimeter of the Kuwaiti Embassy this morning, following fighting which involved all types of artillery, rockets, and machineguns, and also included mutual raids. Reports say that scores of people were killed or injured on both sides and that a DFLP official was killed and three others were injured. Also an Amal official was killed; others injured were taken to the coastal hospitals, the Al-Zahra' hospital, the Gazzah Hospital, and the American University Hospital.

Reports say that Minister Nabih Birri's house came under fire. The clashes within the refugee camps were raging this morning as the Burj al-Barajinah refugee camp came under fire.

Fighting in Camps

NC200732 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 May 85

[Excerpts] The sound of artillery fire is being heard in the area extending from east of the sport city in Sabra camp to the Shatila traffic circle and the Kuwaiti Embassy area following the clashes which began at midnight last night. The Army blocked the airport road because of sniper fire from the Burj al-Barajinah camp, while the sport city road is cautiously passable. Clashes are reported within the Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah camps. The old peoples' home was shelled and the sick were moved out. The fourth floor of Al-Maqasid Hospital was also hit and fire broke out in the Ghazzah Hospital area. The Al-Zahra' and Al-Sahil Hospitals have called for blood donations of all types, but particularly O negative. A guarded calm prevails along the confrontation lines in Beirut, interrupted by sporadic gunfire in Ra's al-Nab' and the Sodeco and Al-Tayyunah areas.

'Fierce Fighting' Continues

NC200954 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 20 May 85

[Excerpt] Fierce fighting continues in Beirut as the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the Abu Musa group confront gunmen from the Amal movement. The clashes are centered in the areas of Cola, Ard Jallul, A'ishah Bakkar, Hayy Farhat, and Al-Ghubayri. Meanwhile, Burj al-Barajinah has been experiencing rocket fire and the Shatila camp has been shelled from Al-Raml al-'Ali and the airport perimeter. According to information as yet unconfirmed, the Palestinians have taken control of the Al-Fakihani and Arab University areas and the Amal gunmen have retreated from these areas. According to information exclusive to Voice of Lebanon, Amal military official Yusuf Harquf was killed in the Cola area. Our correspondent states that the Amal movement has shelled the Al-Maqasid and Al-Barbir Hospitals and that fires broke out in Ghazzah Hospital and in Al-Barbir Hospital. He adds that because of the intensity of the shelling, the Internal Security Forces have pulled their patrols from the areas of tension. The 6th Brigade has also pulled its patrols, contenting itself with observation points. Security sources indicate that following violent clashes, the Palestinians have been able to link the Shatila and Sabra camps and are thus able to move military supplies across the two camps. As a result of the fighting around the airport perimeter, takeoffs and landings have stopped.

Suspension of Flights Denied

NC201000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0940 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Khalid Sa'ib, deputy director of Beirut Airport, has denied the report broadcast by private media a short while ago about the suspension of flights at the airport. He said that the airport is operating normally despite the security situation along the roads leading to the airport. He added that a Middle East Airlines plane coming from Jeddah landed at the airport a short while ago and that another plane is expected to take off soon.

Amal Ultimatum Expires

NC201347 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1315 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Amal's ultimatum to the Palestinians and their collaborators to cease firing ended 15 minutes ago. The fighting has assumed serious proportions along the periphery of the Arab University. Amal gunmen launched an offensive toward the Sport City and managed to reach the area an hour ago.

Amal gunmen are now using vehicles to circumvent the Arab University and are trying to isolate Sabra from Shatila. The Palestinians, however, have managed to tighten their control of the camps and the Jallul area.

16 May People's Assembly Meeting Detailed

JN171322 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 May 85

[Excerpt] Damascus — People's Assembly speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi chaired a meeting last night that was attended by members of the People's Assembly bureaus, the leaders of the People's Assembly branch, the committees' bureaus, the leaders of the party branches, and the representatives of the Progressive National Front's parties at the People's Assembly.

The meeting was also attended by Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Riyad al-Haj Khalil, minister of supply and internal trade.

The conferees raised a group of issues and questions. Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, answered these questions in detail. He said that the government has arranged its working plans in accordance with its priorities. In the field of supply, an accurate study has already been prepared. This study's first article deals with foodstuffs and basic commodities. The second article deals with fruits and vegetables, and the third article deals with minerals and forests and their supplementary issues. Several decisions have also been adopted. These decisions deal with congestion in supply materials, securing needs through local production and the necessary imports, reaching full production in the factories that produce foodstuffs and supplies, and providing for their requirements.

Secretaries of Libyan People's Committees Visit

Arrive 18 May

JN181605 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 May 85

[Excerpts] Brother Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab, secretary of the General People's Committee in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Damascus today on a 3-day visit to the country. He is leading an official delegation comprising secretaries of people's committees in the fraternal country.

Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm led those who received Brother Rajab at Damascus International Airport. He was also received by General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister; Muhammad Ghabbash, the interior minister; Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister; and Munir Barikhan, chief of the Syrian Liaison Bureau in the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Brother Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab made a statement to SANA in which he expressed his pleasure at visiting Syria. He said: We carry greetings from Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, to his Brother Hafiz al-Asad, as well as the Libyan people's greetings to the fraternal Syrian people. He affirmed the importance of meetings between Syrian and Libyan brothers. He said: This meeting comes in implementation of instructions from Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. It is a step on the road to unity between the two fraternal countries — a unity which is the hope of the Arab people in Syria and Libya.

Meet With Al-Kasm

JN191303 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Damascus — The Syrian Cabinet and the Libyan General People's Committee held a joint meeting at 1130 today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and Committee Secretary Brother Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab. Dr al-Kasm began the meeting by welcoming Brother Rajab and the brother secretaries from fraternal Libya and emphasizing the importance of this expanded meeting. He said: This meeting is taking place on the basic understanding that it is not between two different sides, but between the members of the same side, because Syria and Libya are two countries in one Arab homeland, because their peoples are one with a common objective, and because our target is a single state.

Dr al-Kasm added: Our meeting today is the means to lay the practical foundations for the directives of the leaders struggler President Hafiz al-Asad and Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on giving a strong and tangible impetus to unity action. Dr al-Kasm continued: Out of our profound belief that the Arabs are one nation, we must struggle by every means and in all fields in order to establish the single Arab state from the ocean to the Gulf, to face the enemies of the Arab nation, and to confront Zionism and its U.S. ally.

Dr al-Kasm said: We have believed in revolutionary action as our course. Revolution is decisive in its stands. We are wresting the Arab nation's rights through struggle, because what has been taken by force can only be retrieved by force. The revolutionary line seeks only revolutionary solutions. In fact, it pursures the course of struggle, steadfastness, and continuous sacrifices until the desired pan-Arab objective is achieved.

Afterward, Brother Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab expressed his thanks as well as those of the brother secretaries for the great hospitality accorded to them in Damascus. He also conveyed the greetings of the leader of the 1 September Revolution to his brother leader President Hafiz al-Asad and also the greetings of the Libyan people to the Syrian people. He said that the masses always aspire for the fulfillment of their unity aspirations and pan-Arab hopes. He said: This phase, which is marked by continuous Zionist and imperialist plots, calls for unity, struggle, action, and solidarity. We have no choice but to stand solidly together in one trench against all enemies.

Rajab affirmed that Syria has always been in the forefront for unity action and that Syria's steadfastness and confrontation against the enemies of the Arab nation in the fronts and in Lebanon is only a direct result of its continuous resolution and readiness for sacrifice. He said: We are in Syria, the pioneer of unity action. He affirmed that the victory of the Lebanese national resistance, the Arab people in Sudan, and our march reinforce the Arab nation's hopes for progress and for the future. Later, a discussion pervaded by an atmosphere of fraternity and mutual understanding, took place on all the items on the agenda of this joint meeting, The discussion covered the fields of planning, economic cooperation, the building of joint projects in the fields of light and heavy industries, agriculture, trade exchange, transporation, and communications. The discussion also covered cooperation in science, technology, tourism, culture, and information. The meeting was adjourned at 1300.

Prime Minister Dr al-Kasm will hold a Ramadan banquet this evening in honor of Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab and the brother members of the Libyan secretaries to be attended by the deputy prime ministers and ministers.

Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Brother Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab, secretary of the General People's Committee, at 0930 today. Brother Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting, during which Dr al-Kasm and Brother Rajab resumed their review of issues related to the brotherly relations and the ways to develop them in all fields between the two fraternal countries. The also reviewed some topics related to the current developments in the region.

Liaison Official Meets Al-Shar'

JN191905 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, at 1330 today. The talks dealt with current developments in the region and issues of common concern.

The two sides stressed the importance of intensified meetings between officials in the two fraternal countries in order to promote bilateral relations in all fields. The two sides denounced suspect moves in the region which are based on the Camp David accords and the capitulatory Amman agreement which seek to liquidate the Palestine question in order to peddle the Zionist-imperialist scheme. They also denounced the Jordanian-Egyptian joint maneuvers adjacent to the territory of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which coincide with U.S. maneuvers in the Mediterranean.

Rajab Visits Al-Qunaytirah

JN191915 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] The liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah — Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab, secretary for the General People's Committee in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, has stressed Libya's support for Syria's just struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad against the capitulatory plans in the region and its valiant confrontation of the Zionist enemy. This came in a speech Rajab delivered during a visit to the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah today. In his speech Rajab greeted the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the Golan Heights and their determination to sacrifce all that is dear for the sake of defending their land, liberating the occupied Golan Heights, and expelling the hated Zionist enemy.

Syrian-Libyan Higher Committee Meeting Planned

JN171147 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] The preparatory committee for the meetings of the Syrian-Libyan higher committee, which will begin in Damascus next week, met in Damascus today. The committee meeting was chaired on the Syrian side by Dr Subhi Buqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs; and on the Libyan side by Fawzi Ahmad al-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning and Economy.

The committee formed five working committees. They are: A trade exchange committee; economic relations committee; communications, construction, housing, utilities, and social security committee; scientific cooperation, technical cooperation, planning, education, culture, and information committee; and a coordination and drafting committee.

The Libyan delegation arrived in Damascus earlier today.

Swedish Foreign Ministry Official Visits

Meets Al-Kasm

JN181726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Bernd Carlsson, ambassador at the Swedish Foreign Affairs Ministry, at 1200 today. The meeting was attended by the Swedish ambassador in Damascus.

At the beginning of the meeting, Carlsson conveyed the Swedish prime minister's greetings to Dr al-Kasm. The talks revolved around all issues pertaining to the current events and developments in the Middle East and a number of international issues. At the end of the meeting, Dr al-Kasm asked Mr Carlsson to convey his greetings to the Swedish prime minister.

Received by Al-Ahmar

JN181707 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, met this morning with the Swedish Socialist Party [as heard] delegation led by Carlsson, the party's secretary general and representative of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme. The talks revolved around relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Swedish Socialist Party and ways to promote these relations in a manner that serves each party's struggle in its country.

Comrade al-Ahmar explained the results achieved by the eighth regional congress held at the beginning of this year and their effect on the citizens' life and on the activities of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in various fields of life. He clarified the viewpoint of the party and Syria toward current developments in the Arab region, mainly indicating the nature of the current conflict in the region that resulted from Israel's aggressive policy adopted by the Zionist entity, which is supported by the United States — a policy aimed at liquidating the Palestine question and tightly controlling the Arab homeland.

Comrade al-Ahmar reviewed the efforts that Syria exerted and is exerting to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the region based on Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, particularly their rights to self- determination, repatriation, and establishing their independent state on their homeland. Comrade al-Ahmar stressed the role that can be played by the world states, particularly peace-loving states and forces, including the socialist parties in West Europe, to stop the aggressors and to contribute to the establishment of a just peace in the region.

Carlsson expressed his party's concern over the aggravation of the situation in the Middle East. He affirmed that his current visit expresses the interest of his party and government in the events taking place in this sensitive region of the world, adding that the visit is aimed at getting acquainted with the real situation and at learning about the role his party may be able to play in cooperation with the parties of the Socialist International. He expressed his admiration of the development he saw in Syria and affirmed the desire of his party and country to strengthen and promote relations with the Syrian Arab Republic and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Meets With Khaddam

JN181849 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Bernd Carlsson, representative of the Swedish prime minister, this evening. The Swedish ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the current situation in the Middle East.

Khaddam Confers With Lebanese Deputies

JN191855 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Nazim al-Qadiri and Hasan al-Rifa'i, members of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, and Dr Nasib al-Barbir. Talks dealt with all aspects of the situation in the Lebanese arena, particularly in Beirut.

The Lebanese politicians pointed to the historic role Syria is required to play in the Lebanese arena. Khaddam stressed that Syria is determined to exert all possible efforts to restore peace in Lebanon. He added that President Hafiz al-Asad follows the Lebanese situation closely.

Al-Zu'bi Receives APU President 19 May

JN191903 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi received 'Ali Ahmad Salami, president of the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU] and chairman of the parliamentary committee at the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, today. People's Assembly Deputy speaker Dr 'Ali Rida and APU Secretary General 'Abd al-Rahman Burawi attended the meeting.

Talks dealt with some affairs and new developments in the Arab arena and with stands adopted on them. They also discussed issues related to the APU and its activities on both the Arab and international levels.

Damascus Notes King Husayn-'Arafat Meeting

JN180542 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Amman — Jordanian King Husayn met in Amman yesterday with Yasir 'Arafat for the first time since U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to Jordan last week. Agencies cited an official of 'Arafat's clique as saying that Husayn, 'Arafat, and their aides will discuss the results of Shultz' visit, which tackled the Palestinian representation issue in the so-called peace process in the area. The official added that Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Richard Murphy had earlier proposed a meeting between the U.S. Administration and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation without preconditions, if 'Arafat's clique accepts UN Security Council Resolution 242. The 'Arafat-Husayn meeting comes within the framework of the extensive meetings and contacts the parties of the conspiratorial axis are holding in order to liquidate the Palestine cause.

Peres, Shamir Meet Former French President

TA190922 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
19 May 85 p 2

[Excerpt] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that the chances for progress in the peace process are slim due to the refusal of the Arab leaders to open negotiations with Israel.

In his opinion, Husayn is also unprepared to enter negotiations, and is taking advantage of the PLO stance to avoid coming to the negotiating table. Shamir said this on Friday, in a talk he held with former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing who is currently visiting Israel.

The French statesman said he has recently talked with senior Spanish personages and received the impression that a renewal of diplomatic relations between Jerusalem and Madrid is "only a matter of time."

On Friday Giscard also met with Prime Minister Peres, first at Peres' office and later at a luncheon at the prime minister's official residence. Israel's economic problems and the measures currently being taken by the government were reviewed in the talk. Peres emphasized to his guest the importance Israel attaches to improving the relations with Egypt and the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The French guest will also visit Jordan, where he will meet with King Husayn, but sources in Peres' office said he is not carrying any message from Peres to Husayn.

In his talk with Peres the former French president expressed support for his country's joining the "star wars" project initiated by the United States, contrary to current President Francois Mitterrand who turned down Reagan's appeal to France to join it.

"France has no intention of taking an active part in the political process in the region. Paris supports the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, with the participation of PLO members, but does not intend to act for the realization of this idea," it was learned from a senior diplomatic source.

Further on Official Delegation's Visit to Egypt

Egypt's Badawi Views Relations

TA171111 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
17 May 85 Weekend Supplement p 10

[Interview with 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, Egyptian assistant foreign minister and chairman of the Egyptian delegation to the talks with Israel, by Smadar Peri in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpt] [Peri] Israel is planning an improvement in relations, heating the cold peace. Are you also thinking in these terms?

[Badawi] Certainly. We now actually intend to turn over a new leaf in the relations.

[Peri] Why? Would it not be easier for you to keep the status quo? Why is it worthwhile for Egypt to make an effort to turn over a new leaf in relations with Israel?

[Badawi] There is quite a simple reason: Peace is the option we are aiming for. We need it in the future, too. We want to arrive at good and healthy relations with Israel, and we want to continue with the peace process. If we want to continue, we must maintain healthy relations.

[Peri] When speaking of correct relations, Israel has a scale of priorities. We want to implement the tourism agreements and bring the ambassador back. Do you also have a list of priorities?

[Badawi] As far as we are concerned our first priority is a solution to the Tabah problem. It is true that there are difficulties between us, but we want matters to develop so that the atmosphere between us will improve.

[Peri] And the scale of priorities?

[Badawi] We do not have any special priorities. We are open to a discussion of any issue. We have not set any restrictions or taboos on any issues whatsoever in the relations between us. Altogether, I believe the atmosphere will improve and some of the problems will disappear.

[Peri] I understand that people in Cairo do not like the term "package deal" very much.

[Badawi] Definitely. We do not like that term, which expresses a process of give and take. That is, if you do this, I will do that. Every question and issue should be examined separately and no conditions set.

[Peri] However, we are very well aware of the linkage [last word in English]. You taught us that term back in President al-Sadat's time. The linkage between normalization and autonomy.

[Badawi] I disagree. Those are terms invented by the journalists. It is easy for the press to play with words. We said normalization goes with autonomy. There was no alternative, because there was a separate agreement between Egypt and Israel at that time and we wanted to continue.

[Peri] Now, after the withdrawal from Lebanon, we have a new linkage: Mubarak will not meet with Peres until the Tabah problem is solved.

[Badawi] Let me explain that I want to eliminate Tabah from the agenda of Israeli-Egyptian relations. The solution to this issue has been dragged out, and this time has come to put an end to the problem.

[Peri] Now you are hearing two voices from Jerusalem — compromise and arbitration. 'Ezer Weizman will go to Cairo; 'Ezer Weizman will not go to Cairo. We want to thaw the relations; we refuse to soften the official position. How are you getting on with these two voices?

[Badawi] It seems to me that we are reading the picture quite well. Our rules of conduct are simple: We only work with the

Government of Israel. We already know that you have internal wars and they are being conducted at our expense, at the expense of peace. However, we have adopted a clear line: We will not be partners to these internal affairs. We will not permit games to be played at our expense.

I can hear a certain statement from Shamir, and a different one on the same issue from another Israeli minister. But none of this is important: We only pay attention to the official statements of the Israeli Government. That has proved to be the healthiest and most efficient method.

[Peri] Maybe it would be better to do something, both in Israel and in Egypt, to convince the skeptics — those with the intransigent line.

[Badawi] Anyone who followed an intransigent line from the beginning will not be convinced — neither here nor in your country. They will hold onto their extremist views. However, we must work to convince those who have not yet decided. They are our target group. We must make efforts to convince them that peace will be good for both countries.

[Peri] And the expectations? We have expectations that were not fulfilled with the peace, and I imagine that you also had such expectations.

[Badawi] After all, for 30 years you were educated to believe that Egypt is Israel's enemy. Here, too, the nation was educated to believe the same. Now we need people who have genuine vision to overcome this, and, there will always be people on the fringes with remnants from the past — people who are not strong enough to erase and forget.

Agreement Reached on Refugees

TA171752 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1715 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Israel and Egypt today agreed on a timetable for the return of 5,000 Palestinian refugees from Rafah to the Gaza Strip which is under Israel's control. Egypt also allowed Israel to conduct searches in its territory for the bodies of soldiers who have been missing since the Yom Kippur war. This was announced in Cairo at the end of 3 days of talks between the Israeli delegation of ministerial directors and Egyptian representatives. Referring to Tabah, an Egyptian official said that the talks had reached a dead end and that Egypt insists on submitting the matter to international arbitration. The official added that a summit meeting between Shim'on Peres and Husni Mubarak would be held only after the question of Tabah has been solved, the withdrawal from Lebanon has been completed, and progress has been made on the issue of the Palestinians.

Officials Comment on Talks

TA171330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] The talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on Tabah ended in Cairo, after 3 days of deliberations, and they may resume in a few days' time.

The head of the Egyptian delegation, 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, told reporters that the recommendations worked out in the talks will now be presented to the governments, and this will determine the date for the resumption of the deliberations. An Egyptian official who refused to be identified said that the positions on some disputed issues got closer, but not about Tabah.

Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche said that several decisions were made on certain pending issues, and these may be implemented soon. He refused to disclose anything beyond this.

Sources Note Proposals Reached

TA180918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The Israeli delegation that went to Cairo to discuss ways to improve bilateral relations will return to Israel tomorrow morning and submit proposals to the Cabinet for action within a definite timetable. Delegation sources told our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer this morning that the series of proposals include a detailed timetable for the operation of joint professional committees in the trade and tourism spheres, as well as matters that have already been arranged in the military liaison committee. Reference is to Egypt's debts to Israel since the Sinai evacuation, the search for missing soldiers, and arrangements at the border crossings. Along with these proposals the Cabinet will have to decide on Egypt's stand in favor of international arbitration on the Tabah issue.

Delegation Returns

TA200847 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
20 May 85 p 2

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] Egypt has made the return of its ambassador to Israel and the implementation of full normalization in bilateral relations conditional on Israel's signing an arbitration note regarding the Tabah dispute. Israel has made it clear that it rejects this condition. This is what the members of the delegation of directors general: Avraham Tamir, David Kimche, and Major General Menahem 'Eynan will report today to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Kimche, 'Eynan, and Tamir returned from Cairo after midnight last night, following intensive talks which lasted a week. It has been learned that the delegation is to return to Cairo in a few days to continue the discussions.

Signing an arbitration note would mean that Israel accepts Egypt's demand to transfer the Tabah dispute to international arbitration, and that both countries are obligated to accept the verdict without question. It is common knowledge that Israel is asking that the two sides first try to solve the Tabah problem by means of conciliation, the conclusions of which are not binding on the countries in advance.

During the talks in Cairo, Tamir, Kimche, and 'Eynan met with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and President Mubarak's special adviser, former Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil. The Israeli delegation members told the Egyptians that Israel is not prepared to accept the "linkage" [preceding word in English] the Egyptians are making between normalization and the return of the ambassador to Tel Aviv, and signing the arbitration note.

Nevertheless, David Kimche, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, said last night: "Progress was made in the talks, and we reached conclusions on issues that we had not talked about during the last 3 years."

Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Returns 19 May

TA190927 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0914 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 19 May (ITIM) — Muhammad Basyuni, the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel, returned from Cairo this morning on an Air Sinai flight. He told the ITIM correspondent at Ben-Gurion Airport that good progress was made in the talks which were held in Cairo over the weekend.

Basyuni noted that a date for the continuation of the talks has not yet been set.

The Israeli delegation, comprising Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office; Kimche, the director general of the Foreign Ministry; and the chief of the IDF's Planning Branch, will be returning to Israel close to midnight tonight.

Egyptian Presidential Adviser Discusses Relations

TA171026 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 17 May 85 pp 1, 7

[Report by Smadar Peri and Gad Becker]

[Excerpts] "Egypt has adopted a clear-cut decision to improve its relations with Israel. A year ago, when the IDF was still entrenched in Lebanon, you would not have heard such a declaration from us," I was told by Dr Mustafa Khalil, former Egyptian prime minister and a special adviser to President Mubarak today. "Improvement in Israeli-Egyptian relations is vital," Dr Khalil added, "because this will also have implications for Israel's relations with the entire Arab world. Nevertheless, it should be emphasized that the improvement of relations will take place only in the framework of the normalization agreements and there will be no deviations."

Our correspondent Gad Becker adds: Israel has recently transmitted a message to Egypt whereby it is unprepared to pay a heavy political price in return for the Egyptians' readiness to hold a summit meeting. Remarks to this effect were made by Prime Minister Peres to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, during his visit to Jerusalem. Peres said that despite the political and symbolic importance of a summit, such a meeting does not serve as a political goal in itself. Shultz repeated this in Cairo and the Egyptians took note of this.

The foreign minister expressed himself on this issue yesterday. Yitzhaq Shamir said: "A summit is not a favor to Israel. This is not a political achievement one should pay for."

19 May Cabinet Session Held on Economic Measures

Session Proceedings Detailed

TA200624 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 May 85 p 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] There was an air of grim satisfaction in the Prime Minister's Office last night after yesterday's Cabinet meeting. Aides to Premier Peres said that virtually all of the measures that he and his finance minister proposed to the Cabinet hours earlier had been approved — despite the strenuous opposition and reservations of several ministers during the arduous debate.

The voting took place following a rousing and sometimes bitter speech by Peres which lasted for more than an hour. The premier said he had rarely heard "such a lot of talk and such a lack of solidarity."

While he insisted that he was "not threatening," the tenor of his statement seemed to imply that if the Cabinet failed to approve the proposed austerity measures he might see that as a vote of no-confidence in himself.

This exhortation delivered between 7 and 8 p.m., proved necessary because Peres's stern remarks at the start of the day's debate appeared to have been forgotten in the welter of ministerial rhetoric.

The day began with a session of the six-man Inner Economic Cabinet at which Peres and Finance Minister Moda'i outlined the proposals they intended to present to the full Cabinet. At this stage they hoped that their package would receive strong support, especially from the economic ministers.

Launching the full Cabinet meeting, Peres warned that the time had come for hard decisions. "This session will not end without those decisions being taken," he declared. "After they are taken, everyone here must support them publicly. And if anyone feels he cannot support them — then let him resign."

But the hoped-for unanimity failed to materialize. As the debate got under way, minister after minister took exception to aspects of the Treasury's policy, or in some cases to the entire thrust of that policy. The criticism crossed party lines.

Labour's Moshe Shahal, the minister of energy, railed against the inequity of the tax-system, with the working man paying increasingly more, and self-employed and companies often paying nothing. He urged that the government's emphasis should be not on cutting its expenditure but rather on increasing its income and suggested that the self-employed and companies pay tax on each month's actual turnover.

Likud's Gid'on Pat, minister of science, urged far more radical moves than the Treasury contemplated. He was for doing away with the linkage system, and for pegging the shekel to a basket of European currencies.

Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon of Likud favoured fixing the rate of the Israeli currency in relation to the U.S. dollar.

There was sharp and prolonged argument too over the travel tax and foreign currency allowance for overseas travel. Yiga'el Hurvitz (OMETZ), a former finance minister, suggested that the allowance be cut to $300 per person. Vice Premier Shamir, the Likud leader, favoured a $500 ceiling.

As evening approached, Pat joined with 'Ezer Weizman (YAHAD) in urging that the Cabinet decide nothing, but that instead a group of ministers be commissioned to recommend radical and far reaching changes in economic policy. At that point, according to Cabinet sources, it seemed as though the majority of the ministers might balk at the Peres-Moda'i package. Both men then made lengthy and passionate last-minute-appeals — and eventually carried the day.

Moda'i asserted that to embark on radical and untried solutions now would be to court dangers which would be far greater than the chances of the success of such measures. Peres and Moda'i both maintained that the recent economic setbacks had been caused not by wrong policies, but by the failure to implement the policies that had been decided upon.

Peres said the government had succeeded thus far in avoiding large-scale unemployment, and that must be its goal in the future too. He told Pat that neither the public nor indeed the Knesset would agree to destroying the system of linkage. The coalition majority in the House, he said, is not "96 yes-men. Your proposal will simply not get through." He said Israel had rejected Washington's recommendation that it unlink its economy — and that remained his firm position. Peres made a point of praising Defence Minister Rabin for the "superb intellectual and administrative effort" involved in slashing the defence budget.

Defending the increase in travel tax (until September 15), Peres demanded, "So what if the travel companies are annoyed?" And if, as one minister had predicted, Israelis living abroad would renounce their citizenship because of a travel surcharge, then, "If that's all their passport is worth to them — they can go to hell."

Secretary Reads Communique

TA191850 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1820 GMT 19 May 85

[19 May Cabinet session communique read by Cabinet Secretary Dr Yosi Beilin at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The Cabinet held an economic debate today, and adopted approximately 20 resolutions, some of which will require Knesset approval. The amendment to the Bank of Israel Law was approved. It will, in 3 years, prevent the bank from giving the government loans to finance its expenses. During the intervening 3 years the bank will limit the amount it will lend, thus serving as a block to government expenditure. It was decided to curtail public sector transactions until 31 August. It was decided not to raise wages and not to alter the existing working conditions in the civil service for that period of time. It was decided to increase the tax on travel abroad to 300,000 shekels — this sum will be updated every month. The foreign currency allocation per traveler will be lowered to $800. This decision will remain in effect until 15 September 1985. Until that date, ministers and other civil servants will not go abroad for congresses, conferences, or educational courses. Exceptions to this ruling will require special approval. A 10-percent credit on income tax will be given to the productive sector employees up to the 50-percent income tax bracket. The employers will enjoy a 5-percent credit. On 1 June 1985, the value-added tax will be raised from 15 to 17 percent. The cost of renting an apartment owned by the public housing companies will be raised by a rate that will constitute an incentive to the tenants to purchase those apartments.

In addition to the above resolutions, the Cabinet decided to examine the following issues: More serious handling of black capital, the incorporation of private capital in government-owned companies, and a shift to a 5-day workweek in the civil service.

Moda' Interviewed on Session

TA191935 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1822 GMT 19 May 85

[Interview with Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i by 'Oded Shahar in the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, immediately following Cabinet Secretary Beilin's reading of the Cabinet communique — live]

[Text] [Moda'i] Good evening. The resolutions adopted by the Cabinet today were intended to redirect the economic processes back to the course we wanted to select for the 1985-86 fiscal year. I should state already in my opening remarks that the package deal, to which the Cabinet is one of three signatories, will continue to be observed in full. In addition to this, we will remain faithful to the original Cabinet resolutions, particularly in regard to guaranteeing the security of the public's savings and the prevention of large-scale devaluations. We have instituted gradual devaluations throughout the duration of the package deal, and we will continue to do the same in the future as well, in accordance with circumstances.

As the Cabinet secretary explained, some of the resolutions adopted today are simply proposals that were not adopted originally on the eve of the present fiscal year. However, naturally there are some additional limitations aimed at ensuring that the state budget, as presented to the Knesset, is adhered to without any deviation. Since on some matters involving revenue or expenditures in two or three ministries we are already experiencing tardiness, which could accumulate for 2 or even more months, some of the issues mentioned here — such as the higher rate of the value-added tax [VAT], the limiting of government transactions, or the hiring of personnel — are intended to make sure we go back to the path of remaining within the bounds of the state budget as presented to, and approved by, the Knesset.

At the same time, there is absolutely no doubt that today's resolutions provide an initial indication of the future direction that will be taken, namely unambiguous encouragement of the productive sector both in terms of both the employees and employers working in that sector, with special emphasis on the exporters in that sector.

I would like the decision to decrease the employee's income tax by 10 percent and the employer's by 5 percent to be regarded as a trend, even if its relative impact is not that serious; I would not like it to be seen as a move that will in any way decrease state revenues, because this decrease will undoubtedly be offset — with a small profit — by the increase in the VAT.

It seems to me that in regard to the travel tax, the Cabinet's decision is balanced. Unfortunately, this is happening at the beginning of the season for travel overseas — and I am talking about Israeli tourism abroad, not business travel or any other kind of travel. I believe that here we have found a happy medium and have increased the tax from $150 to $300, and are leaving the levy as it is . At the same time, in order to protect Israel's foreign currency reserves, we are limiting the allowance for every traveler to $800 instead of the $1,000 permitted today.

These are the main points that the Cabinet decided upon today. One must also not forget the Bank of Israel Law, which has long been debated and was finally adopted by the Cabinet today, and I hope will pass the first reading by the Knesset this week; or the setting of the ceiling for the law on encouraging capital investment, which was under debate and had been suffering setbacks in Cabinet deliberations. Well, today it was adopted, and I hope that here, too, we will be able to pass it in the Knesset sometime this week.

[Shahar] Mr Finance Minister, we have heard here about a series of measures. If one examines them carefully, it would seem that the Cabinet may again be taking the easy way out, perhaps, in the form of raising VAT or imposing a new levy on people leaving for travel abroad, and that since it is impossible to cut the state budget, state transactions are being momentarily frozen, halting everything in one move. Is this the Cabinet's economic plan?

[Moda'i] No. I have already explained many times that the Cabinet's economic plan for the next fiscal year comprises the following steps: First, a cut in the state budget, which we will observe despite your pessimistic appraisal, both through a freeze and through guaranteeing the passage of bills on additional revenues, which are currently being debated by the Knesset. It is true that there are some impediments in the process of debating and legislating them, but nonetheless, we will adhere to the budget. Second, the economic policy involves package deals which although they cannot in themselves constitute an in-depth solution to the Israeli economic woes, they can still help in terms of the marginal costs, and primarily as a means to maintain a low level of indexes — which, last month exceeded expectations to what you called a shocking degree. It is true that it came as a shock, but it could have nevertheless been predicted according to the delay in the actual budget cuts — not in the decision to make the cuts, but in the actual implementation of those cuts. Third, there is the component that involves protecting the foreign currency reserves, and entails imposing heavy taxation on the import of luxury goods as commonly defined in the various customs laws. Now we have added further taxation by way of the purchase tax, and the protecting of our foreign currency from slipping away and thus lowering our reserves.

[Shahar] In everything you said, sir, I have failed to hear you comment on the expected rise in the prices of subsidized goods, such as fuel. Will this be implemented only following coordination with the Histadrut? Has such coordination taken place?

[Moda'i] At the beginning of my statement I noted that the Cabinet's policy is to maintain the package deal as written and signed by the parties. This means that we will raise the prices of subsidized goods in the rates stipulated in the agreement. The latest agreement set a ceiling of 25 percent for the next price increase, whenever it should take place, together with price increases for the other goods as they are approved by the Industry and Trade Ministry. In other words we are maintaining the frameworks as they have been set. However, this agreement was appended by what was called a secret annex, which stipulates that in the course of the year — even if belatedly — we will lower the rate of the subsidies so that we will not exceed the sum that appears in the budget clause on subsidies for goods and services.

[Shahar] Finally, Mr Finance Minister, some 2 or 3 months ago, when you submitted the state budget, you told the public that these were going to be the last economic steps, and that this was the government's economic plan for this year. Now here it is May and you have decided on new economic measures. Can you tell the people of Israel tonight that these are the final economic measures that will be implemented this year?

[Moda'i] The answer is yes, and were it not for hitches caused by the legislative processes, today we would not have needed the harsher measures, either. We would then have balanced the budget as presented to the Knesset and would have maintained the framework, which you prefer to term economic measures that are hard to live with, but which I prefer to consider economic improvements. Nonetheless, I repeat that our realistic estimate is that within 1 or 2 weeks we will have completed the entire business of legislation, and that this plus a precise calculation of the effect of the decrees announced here tonight should make it possible for us to end the fiscal year within the framework of the set budget. If this happens, by the end of the current fiscal year our predicament will be better than it was at its outset, and certainly better than it is at this interim stage.

Economics Minister Ya'aqobi Examines Problems

TA180937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0705 GMT 18 May 85

[Interview with Economics and Planning Minister Gad Ya'aqobi by economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Sukenik] At the end of this week you were again mentioned as a candidate for replacing the finance minister. It seems to me that such a demand has indeed been raised in closed meetings such as that of the Alignment ministers. Is this true?

[Ya'aqobi] I think this entire issue is not topical.

[Sukenik] Why are you rejecting such a possibility?

[Ya'aqobi] I am not rejecting any possibility. As long as a person is in politics, as long as he is a Cabinet member, all options are open; but in my opinion, this issue is not on the agenda from any point of view, and it is pointless to deal with it.

[Sukenik] Still, for many months now you have demanded a comprehensive economic program rather than piecemeal measures. This implies there is no such plan yet, and this is no complement for the finance minister after 8 months of service.

[Ya'aqobi] In this context the problem is not this or another minister's. The problem is whether we can now turn the economy around and carry out the major goals we want to achieve. I think that at the outset the government did act correctly in this sphere. Later, matters went wrong, although, in my opinion, it was possible to get good results. Matters went wrong for three reasons, in my opinion: a) the Knesset did not complete the legislation on issues that could have decreased the budget deficit by about $700 to $800 million; b) the government failed to make more cuts in subsidies which naturally has increased consumption and prevented restraint in local market activity; and c) the gap between the official representative foreign currency rate and that of the black market increased largely due to too much talk about devaluations and threats to public's savings. These two elements caused quite a bit of damage.

[Sukenik] You may not like the question of who is to blame then, so let me ask you the following: Where are the faults? What is wrong with the system?

[Ya'aqobi] It seems to me that I made it clear that there are malfunctions in a number of spheres. It seems to me that they can and should be corrected. We should also present the public with a plan that will lead us to economic growth and long-term development.

[Sukenik] Who should do so?

[Ya'aqobi] I can only speak for myself. I do not go to any minister with complaints; I do not think this is right in the framework of a national unity government, and I have never done so. I can only say now that within about 2 weeks I will present the government with a long-term plan for overall economic development, which will include measures and goals. This will be a detailed plan for each economic sector which has been worked out for several months now in coordination with other government ministries. This is a very comprehensive, complete, and consistent plan; the various parts of the plan complement one another.

Second, concerning the proposals that will be brought before the Cabinet this Sunday — I have passed this on to both the prime minister and finance minister — I suggest that at least three components be included to contribute to renewed economic growth: a) relieving the income tax and national insurance burden for workers in the productive and exporting sectors; b) setting an export policy that will maintain the profitability of exports as well as introduce reform in the method of boosting exports; this was presented to and adopted in principle by the ministerial committee on economic affairs last week; and c) immediately submitting to the Knesset a bill to give tax exemptions to new export-oriented industries and their workers, especially in development towns; this would complement the current methods of promoting investments in industry.

At the same time, the main efforts in the coming weeks should be invested in restoring the economy to some degree of stability and restraint so that, on the one hand, pressures resulting in price hikes will be curbed, and on the other hand, the pressure on foreign currency consumption will considerably decrease.

[Sukenik] Will you be engaging in verbal wrestling again this Sunday, at the expense of making decisions?

[Ya'aqobi] I assume there will be an argument. I myself am not content with all the proposals that will be raised by the Finance Ministry, although I definitely support some of the proposals. As for myself, however, I will raise a long series of additional proposals which, I hope, will be partly or completely incorporated in the joint proposals that will be brought up in the government by the economic cabinet. This 6-man committee called the economic cabinet will meet again on Sunday morning.

[Sukenik] Do you believe the Cabinet will now adopt a plan to whitewash black capital in the hands of the public?

[Ya'aqobi] I do not know whether or not it will do so. My opinion, though, is that such a process can be encouraged by appropriate arrangements which, after some time, should also include harsher penalties for tax evasion and accumulation of black capital. I think that in the framework of permissible allocations it is surely possible to suggest to the public good deposit terms with yields on their side. It seems to me that such encouragement is vital for us to somewhat improve our foreign currency reserves.

[Sukenik] You and the finance minister were supposed to help each other. Have you been helpmates or do you oppose one another?

[Ya'aqobi] I know one Cabinet minister whose personal name is 'Ezer [pun on the Hebrew word 'ezer which means help], so I would not like the two things mixed. I am not pleased with the general situation; I am not pleased with the situation in the government; I am not pleased with the economic situation. I am sure that there is a great deal of room for improvement in all of these spheres, and this improvement is vital and urgent.

Editorials Analyze Domestic Economic Measures

TA200628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0330 GMT 20 May 85

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *DAVAR* says the measures that will accelerate inflation and those that will cause a recession will not balance each other.

Our experience, and that of others, during different periods of time has taught us this. The two can exist alongside each other, each having its own negative effect. Inflation already serves as an example of this. According to all the signs, the mixture of decisions made yesterday — the legislation which is now in its final stages and that being planned — will indeed have their stagflationary effect on the Israeli economy. It is hard to believe that this was the Cabinet's intention, but the fact that this is what will result indicates that the decisions have not solved anything. We must hope that the Cabinet will now address itself to a genuine economic program.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that the prime minister must now step out front as the nation's leader. Mr Peres must advise the government to implement an economic program and regard the decisions publicized last night as just a beginning. He should talk sense to the people, because they prefer to hear and accept sense rather than the pap they have heard to date.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that now, following yesterday's Cabinet session, it has again been proved that a unity government is not a prescription for healing the economy, and the country is at the same point from which the government embarked on its healing campaign. The Cabinet met yesterday for a sort of emergency session and again got itself entangled in decisions on several measures, instead of finally determining a comprehensive and complete economic plan to restrict inflation, the primary disease of Israel's economy.

HAMODI'A writes that yesterday's protracted Cabinet decision proved how complicated the decision-making apparatus is. The differences of opinion are almost irreparably disrupting the attempts to rescue the country from the crisis, to the point of reinforcing the fear that it will not be long before even more painful decisions will have to be made. Meanwhile, the roots of the crisis, which is the result of a whole set of economic and social blunders, have not been touched.

HADSHOT YISRA'EL says that last night's decisions may have been the last opportunity for the Cabinet — which has Yitzhaq Moda'i as finance minister and Ari'el Sharon as minister of industry and trade — to formulate a sane economic program and insist on its correct implementation.

MK's Call for Conditional Talks With PLO Members

TA170954 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
17 May 85 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Labor Party Secretary 'Uzi Bar'am and a group of Labor Party "doves" are calling on the government to talk with any Palestinian, including members of the PLO, who is prepared to recognize Israel. Knesset Member [MK] Bar'am told the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent that "the PLO, for me, is a meaningless term, a terrorist organization which does not recognize Israel, but I am willing to hold negotiations with any member of this organization who is prepared to recognize Israel." Alignment MK's Ora Namir and Hayim Ramon also said that one should not reject negotiations with PLO members who recognize Israel and, in their opinion, it will be difficult to promote the peace process without such willingness. MK Namir also emphasized that the Labor Party platform contains a clause which renders possible negotiations with any Palestinian who is prepared to recognize Israel and declare his opposition to terror. According to her, it is clear that reference is also to Palestinians who are PLO members.

In the coming days, the group of Labor Party "doves" will call for Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to adopt this formula, thus enabling the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation which will hold direct negotiations with Israel. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent notes that in last Sunday's Cabinet meeting, Shim'on Peres said he is opposed to negotiations with any Palestinian who is committed to the Palestinian covenant, but in some interviews Peres rejected negotiations with all PLO members. Labor Party elements say that had his hands not been tied by the national unity government, Peres would have adopted the formula of the "doves."

Soviet Delegation Arrives To Mark Allied Victory

TA180520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The commander of the Red Army force which liberated Auschwitz, General Vasiliy Petrenko, is now in Israel as part of a Soviet delegation to ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the Allied victory over Nazi Germany. The delegation, which includes a group of singers and musicians who will give performances in Israel, arrived here last night. One of the central ceremonies will be held tomorrow morning at the forest in the Jerusalem hills dedicated to the Red Army.

Cooperation With WHO Committee Jeopardized

TA190709 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Israel has announced that it will not cooperate with a WHO committee in examining the situation in the territories if such a committee is sent in accordance with the strongly anti-Israel decision which was made last week during the WHO assembly in Geneva. The Israeli representative to the UN institutions in Geneva, Efrayim Dowek, announced after the vote that, at most, Israel would receive the committee on a professional basis. Committees of this type have visited Israel and the territories every year recently, and our correspondent has learned from the Health Ministry that the latest WHO report points out achievements in the situation in the territories along with the criticism. Our correspondent also notes that Romania abstained during the vote in Geneva, while the rest of the Eastern bloc countries voted in favor of the resolution. Spain, which voted in favor of the resolution in a committee, was absent from the vote at the assembly following diplomatic action by Israel. Prior to this, the WHO accepted Israel's request to be transferred from the Asian region to the European region in matters concerning the organization. Israel made this request following incidents in which the Arab countries actually prevented Israeli activity in the Asian region.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Returns From Tour; Communique Issued

LD181948 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 18 May 85

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid returned to Algiers this afternoon from a long trip which took him to three Latin American countries and to Senegal. The head of state was welcomed by members of the Political Bureau and by high-ranking officials of the party and the state.

Before leaving Dakar, where he was seen off by President Abdou Diouf, the head of state stressed to the press the identity of opinions of Senegal and Algeria on all the African and international issues discussed. He added that the views of the two countries often coincided on the solution to these problems. President Abdou Diouf for his part stated that Algeria and Senegal [words indistinct] in their relations.

The two countries are in perfect agreement, he said, and will continue their journey together to build cooperation, consolidate their friendship, and [words indistinct] build Africa and develop South-South cooperation.

A joint Algerian-Senegalese communique was published this evening. It stressed in particular that the talks between Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and Abdou Diouf took place in an atmosphere of great understanding, friendship, and cordiality.

The two heads of state expressed satisfaction at the development and quality of cultural, economic, and technical exchanges between the two countries and agreed to make all possible efforts to raise the level of these exchanges to that of the excellent relations maintained at the political level in the spirit of friendship and trust which mark relations between Algeria and Senegal. The two heads of state agreed to establish and develop contacts at all levels.

On the subject of the major issues in international economics and politics, the two heads of state recalled the tensions and crises afflicting several areas of the world. Particular attention was given to problems facing Africa. With regard to these problems they reasserted their determination to safeguard and strengthen the OAU and their willingness to work to find peaceful solutions to African problems. In southern Africa they repeated their support for the SWAPO in Namibia and the ANC in South Africa.

On Chad they repeated the principles and conditions necessary to promote the reestablishment of a stable peace -- in particular national reconciliation, the halting of any kind of external interference, respect for national unity, for independence and the territorial integrity of Chad.

On northwest Africa and the problem of the Western Sahara, the two heads of state reiterate the need for the application of Resolution 104 of the 19th OAU summit, in order to promote a peaceful, just, and stable peace.

Messaadia Meets With SFRY's Bunevski

LD191232 Algiers APS in English 1100 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Algeria 19 May 85 (APS) — The head of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, Mohamed Cherif Messaadia confered with M. Mirko Bunevski Yugoslav secretariat for home affairs, who is on an official visit in Algeria. Talks were focused on relations between the two parties and countries and means to further expand the Algero-Yugoslav cooperation.

Also the two sides exchanged views on international questions of common interest especially that connected with the Nonaligned Movement and expressed the desire to set up peace in the Mediterranean region.

Communique Issued on Hungarian Minister's Visit

PM171039 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 1 May 85 p 6

[APS report: "Optimum Use of Trade Capabilities"]

[Text] Algiers — At the end of the visit to Algeria by Dr Peter Varkonyi, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and Hungarian foreign minister, the following press communique was issued yesterday:

At the invitation of Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the FLN Politburo and Algerian foreign minister, Dr Peter Varkonyi, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and Hungarian foreign minister, made an official visit to Algeria 27 through 30 April 1985.

During his visit to Algeria Peter Varkonyi was granted an audience by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN, to whom he handed a message from MSZMP Secretary General Janos Kadar.

The Hungarian foreign minister had talks with Rabah Bitat, member of the Politburo and speaker of the National People's Assembly; Selim Saadi, member of the Central Committee and minister of heavy industry; Zitouni Messaoudi, member of the Central Committee and minister of light industry; and Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat responsible for foreign relations.

During talks which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding the two ministers examined bilateral relations and exchanged views on international questions of mutual interest. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the sustained development of Algerian-Hungarian relations in all spheres and showed particular interest in defining and establishing new ways of enabling bilateral economic, scientific, and technical cooperation to be strengthened and further diversified, especially by making optimum use of trade capabilities, on which the two countries' economic development depends. In this context they called on the joint intergovernmental committee to establish a framework of financing aimed at encouraging joint development projects and promoting commercial exchanges on a stable and balanced basis. During the talks the two sides informed each other about the situation prevailing in their respective regions.

Examining the current international situation, the two sides emphasized the need to improve international relations, and in this context expressed their satisfaction at the start of the resumption of the East-West dialogue, which is a positive contribution to easing international tension. Similarly they welcomed the Nonaligned Movement's permanent contribution to promoting real peace and security.

The two sides paid particular attention to the negative effects of the serious world economic crisis on the developing countries' economies, especially on the African countries. They expressed the view that the elimination of the underlying causes of this economic crisis must be based on a real and necessary restructuring of the present system of international economic relations which does not meet the legitimate requirements of development in the developing countries.

The two sides examined the developments in the Middle East, the Maghreb, southern Africa, and Central America, and reaffirmed their full and complete support for the peoples in these regions who are struggling to have their right to self-determination respected and to have their fundamental and legitimate aspirations satisfied.

Dr Peter Varkonyi expressed his thanks for the warm welcome given to him and invited Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi to make an official visit to Hungary. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Greets Sudan's Siwar al-Dhahab

LD191844 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, 19 May (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution sent a telegram to General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab while crossing Sudanese airspace today. The telegram says:

While crossing Sudanese airspace after performing the minor pilgrimage, it pleases me and the accompanying delegation to thank you for the fraternal, warm welcome accorded to me yesterday by you personally, the brother prime minister and members of the TMC and the Sudanese Government during our stopover in Khartoum Airport, which gave us the cherished opportunity to hold important talks.

While wishing you good health and happiness, and progress and prosperity for the valiant Sudanese people, we reaffirm to you that Libya stands on your side with all its possibilities.

[Signed] Your brother, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Al-Qadhdhafi, Delegation Conclude Tour

LD191833 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, 19 May (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution and the accompanying delegation arrived this evening in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah from Jeddah after having performed a minor pilgrimage. The brother leader of the revolution had left Jeddah this morning after a two-hour talk with King Fahd.

The brother leader sent a cable to King Fahd on leaving Jeddah, which says: Upon leaving your fraternal country it pleases me and the accompanying delegation to address our great thanks and appreciation to you for the great hospitality and warm welcome accorded to us by yourself personally and your aides during our minor pilgrimage. We wish you good health and the fraternal Saudi people all progress and prosperity. I also highly appreciate the importance of the talks we had this morning in Jeddah.

JANA Rules Out Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting With 'Arafat

LD180914 Tripoli JANA in English 0853 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, Sha'ban 28, May 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* quoted a Palestinian source as saying that the conflicts between the PLO and Libya are currently being resolved. The source anticipated a meeting between 'Arafat and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi after 'Arafat's return to Tunisia.

AL-QABAS speaks about 'Arafat as if he still struggles with the rifle and machineguns in south Lebanon and as if his forces still set off from the Jordanian lands to strike at Galilee and the other areas controlled by the Zionists.

The newspaper speaks as if Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] denounced the U.S. policy and refused to recognise the Resolution 242 and follow Husni Mubarak and King Husayn hell-bent on submission and settlement. In such cases we would have met 'Arafat and be with him in the forward trenches, but as 'Arafat chose the settlement and direct negotiation way and took the David stable side. [Sentence as received]

Thus, there is no meeting with him and his return is unacceptable. This is our principle and solid stance known for all the masses of our Arab nation. Any speech out of this principle will be meaningless aimed at distortion [words indistinct].

JANA Commentator on Egyptian-Jordanian Maneuvers

LD181407 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, 18 May (JANA) — The Egyptian and Jordanian forces have carried out joint military maneuvers in the western desert close to Libyan border. The Egyptian Government's MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY has reported that these maneuvers began last Monday and that the final stage of these maneuvers was concluded the day before yesterday, Thursday. The political editor of JANA has commented on these maneuvers. He says:

We intended to point out these maneuvers at the time but we preferred that reference to them should be made by the head of the regime dominating in Egypt. So it came to be, and thus Field Marshall Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian defense minister, spoke not in his capacity as defense minister but also as a politician. Hence at this point comment must be made about these maneuvers.

There is a legitimate question in this matter, namely, what do these maneuvers mean, what is intended by them?

As we know the Egyptian regime, by its submission, humiliation and silence has handed all its cards to the Zionist enemy and surrendered submissively and disgracefully to an American-Zionist decision — moreover, so did the Jordanian regime. We do not find any justifications other than a blatant provocation. Husni Mubarak announced, in the same way that the entombed Al-Sadat and King Husayn had announced before him, that the relationship between Egypt and the Zionist enemy is a strategic one and the Camp David accords will not be abandoned and there will be no war after the Ramadan war. Hence, the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes are directing these maneuvers for provocation and harassment and they are linking these with a series of political stands by the countries which are resolutely defending their national and pan-Arab choices which were able to attract and concentrate the attention of the Egyptian and Jordanian peoples on the achievements and victories which the two agent and renegade regimes were unable to achieve.

We fully realize that the Egyptian regime resorts to these base methods to cover up its failure, its hesitation, its inability, its agency, and its suspicious links with the Zionist enemy with paper reactionary pacts. By these methods which indicate its political and ideological short comings, this regime is tacitly admitting its failure in the internal sphere and in its relations with others after it became isolated, after its agency and loss of popularity was exposed by the popular revolution in Sudan, and after the condemnation by the TMC of the sister country of the Camp David accords and the suspicious pacts.

The Egyptian regime in all cases is operating under American-Zionist direction. However, in this case it must realize that it is directing a terrible insult to the great Egyptian Army which destroyed the Bar Lev line and raised the Arab flag to fill the hearts of millions with hope and the thrill of victory. Involving the Egyptian Army in provocative maneuvers to harass its sisters is a vile plot against this army and against the Egyptian people who know that their enemy and the enemy of the Arab nation is, naturally, not Sudan nor Libya, but Zionist and American imperialism which has been able in the past years to make the Egyptian people suffer hunger and the Egyptian Army to suffer bad conditions imposed upon it in Sinai and Tahab.

Playing with fire in the direction arranged by the agent Mubarak and King Husayn and their masters will have its consequences. In the same way that Al-Sadat was defeated and the instruments of playing with fire which he used were destroyed, it is very easy to destroy the rest of these instruments in the hands of Husni Mubarak who began, since the overthrow of his lackey in Khartoum, to tremble. He must know that the revolution is marching from the south to the north, from the east to the west to bring down the pillars of his regime and all the agent paper regimes.

Arab League Cabled

LD181846 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, 18 May (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison today sent a letter to the secretary general of the Arab League, informing him about the Egyptian-Jordanian joint maneuvers in the desert adjacent to the Libyan border.

The committee told the secretary general that these maneuvers coincide with the Jordanian regime's declared acceptance of the line of surrender followed by the Egyptian regime toward the Zionist enemy in the context of the two regimes' involvement in the imperialist plan aimed at imposing capitulation and submission on the Arab nation, at ignoring the central issue — Palestine — and antagonizing anyone trying to thwart this aggressive plan.

In its letter, the committee also explains the collusion of the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes with the United States to step up provocations against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The committee told the secretary general that while denouncing these provocative maneuvers, executed under instructions from and in coordination with imperialism and Zionism, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah urges the General Secretariat of the Arab League to assume its obligations regarding these grave developments. It also demands that the Arab foreign ministers be informed of these developments.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Outgoing Envoys, Delegations

LD181333 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Rabat, May 18 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received here Friday six ambassadors who paid him a farewell visit on the occasion of the end of their mission in Morocco. The sovereign thus received M. Adil Isma'il, ambassador of Lebanon; M. Emil Staffelmayr, ambassador of Austria; M. Joseph Verner Reed, ambassador of the United States of America; M. Arturo Arana Ossorio, ambassador of Argentina; M. Roger Vaures, ambassador of France, and M. Dafar Mahmud al-Kaylani, ambassador of Iraq.

The sovereign who decorated some of these with various Alaouit distinctions also received the Sudanese delegation led by Gen Yusuf Husayn and comprising Gen 'Uthman al-Amin al-Sayyid, member of the Transition Military Council, and M. al-Sanhouri, ambassador of the Sudan to Rabat.

On the same day, the monarch also received Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid ibn Sultan, son to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) president; M. Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi minister of state in charge of foreign affairs of the UAE, in the presence of the UAE ambassador to Rabat, M. 'Abdallah al-Zaawi.

These meetings took place in the presence of M. Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs, cooperation and information, and M. Ahmed Reda Guedira, adviser to the king.

The Moroccan sovereign also received the delegations he is to dispatch to a number of heads of state in Latin American countries.

Sudan

JANA Details Al-Qadhdhafi Stopover in Khartoum

LD181517 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum 18 May (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution stopped over at noon today at Khartoum Airport coming from Kigali after a visit to Rwanda and Burundi to open the cultural and Islamic centers and to help the Muslims.

A great welcome was accorded to the brother leader of the revolution. General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council [TMC], led those who welcomed the leader. Members of the TMC, the prime minister, and a number of officers of the Armed Forces also took part in welcoming the leader. The brother leader of the revolution accompanied by General Siwar al-Dhahab inspected the honor guard.

The brother leader of the revolution and General 'Abd al-RahmanSiwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, held a working session in Khartoum this afternoon immediately after the arrival of the brother leader of the revolution in the Sudanese capital. This session lasted 2 hours.

The brother leader of the revolution left Khartoum Airport forJeddah this afternoon at the end of a 4-hour visit during which timehe held a working session with General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese TMC, and with members of the council and members of the government. The leader left for Jeddah to perform a minor pilgrimage.

Calls for Mubarak's Downfall

LD181619 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 May (JANA) — On his arrival in Khartoum, the brother leader made a statement to the press in which he said: I do not view Sudan from an African angle, but from an Arab angle. I did not want to exempt it from my African tour. I was on an African tour and considered it necessary to visit my brothers here in Khartoum, and meet with my brother, 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab and members of the TMC, the prime minister and members of the government in order to congratulate them on their victory and also to congratulate the heroic Sudanese people on the victory of the popular revolution, which was crowned by the joining of the Armed Forces led by our brother, Siwar al-Dhahab, with the popular masses. Thank God we avoided bloodshed and fighting each other for the sake of the agents, reaction and imperialism.

I have come to offer my congratulations for the historic stand by the Armed Forces, represented in my brother, 'Abd al-Rahman and his colleagues.

The joining with the popular masses in the streets by the Armed Forces, and the termination of the regime of the agent lackey constitute a national, pan-Arab, cultural, bold stand. We congratulate the heroic Sudanese people, who developed their opposition to the regime by way of civil disobedience and rebellion. I call upon the entire Arab people to follow the Sudanese people's example and liquidate the reactionary and capitulationist forces in the same manner that the Sudanese people liquidated this regime. I also call on the Arab armed forces to follow the example of the Sudanese Armed Forces. The commanders of these forces should also follow the example of the commanders of the Sudanese Army, led by Siwar al-Dhahab and his comrades, and join the popular masses so that the Arab nation will liquidate reaction, regionalism and capitulationism, as well as the forces of backwardness and apostasy, so that the Arab nation may unify its ranks, liberate its lands and regain its dignity.

The brother commander affirmed that the revolution cannot stop at the imaginary borders dividing the Arab nation within the one Arab homeland. However hard the rulers try to prevent the winds of the revolution from reaching their countries, they will inevitably discover that the winds of revolution know no doors. The Sudanese people set a pioneering revolutionary precedence, which proves how the unarmed popular masses can bring down arrogant, high-handed repressive governments and dictatorships. The forces of the Sudanese people, the Armed Forces of the Sudanese people, have also set a high example to be followed in the way the national armed forces joined the people at the decisive moment.

He added: I believe that the revolution has started. Yesterday, I heard reports coming from Egypt speaking about the start of demonstrations and rebellion there against the Zionist presence and against Egypt's link with the true enemy of the Arab nation. I believe that the regime in Egypt is on its way to meeting the same fate the Numayri regime met here. I believe that the Egyptian people have learned from the Sudanese people how to settle accounts with agent forces, apostasy and treason. The Arab masses must follow the example of the Sudanese people and settle their accounts with the forces hostile to the masses.

With regard to the likelihood of moving the headquarters of the Pan-Arab Command of the Popular Revolution Forces from Tripoli to Damascus or Khartoum, Al-Qadhdhafi said: I was asked by the commands of the Arab revolutionary forces throughout the Arab homeland to head this pan-Arab command. After the liberation of Sudan I proposed that the headquarters of the pan-Arab command be in either Sudan or Syria. The matter now rests with the pan-Arab detachments' commands, which I head. It is up to them to agree or not to agree. Generally speaking, it would be an honor for Sudan to be the headquarters of the pan-Arab command. In this new position I am not a Libyan, for the whole Arab homeland is my homeland.

Referring to Sudan's foreign problems, the brother commander said that these problems ended with the fall of the defunct Sudanese regime, and Sudan now has no enemies in Africa and nobody dislikes Sudan.

SUNA Carries Press Statement

JN181832 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1738 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 May (SUNA) — Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, made a stopover at Khartoum Airport this afternoon, where he met with his brother General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council [TMC]. His excellency held a 2-hour talk with Gen Siwar al-Dhahab in the VIP room at the airport.

In a statement to the press following his arrival, Col al-Qadhdhafi said that he came here as part of an African tour to congratulate the Sudanese leaders and heroic people on the victory of their popular revolution and the People's Armed Forces' bias toward the people to avert bloodshed. His excellency described the People's Armed Forces' position as historic, nationalist, civilized, revolutionary, and courageous.

President al-Qadhdhafi also congratulated the heroic Sudanese people, who developed opposition against the regime to the degree of civil disobdience and rebellion. He added: I call on the other Arab peoples to follow Sudan's example and liquidate the forces of reactionaries and defeatists in the same way the Sudanese people and their Armed Forces liquidated the Numayri regime.

Al-Qadhdhafi also called on armed forces in the Arab countries to liquidate reactionaries and defeatists so that the Arab nation can unify and liberate itself and safegaurd its heritage. His excellency stressed that the popular revolution will move across imaginary borders. No attempts by any ruler can prevent it, because revolution does not recognize imaginary borders. The Libyan leader said that the Sudanese people carried out an unprecedented revolution which affirmed that popular revolutions can topple arrogant, vain governments. The Sudanese People's Armed Forces provided a great revolutionary model by siding with the national forces at critical moments.

Referring to news agency reports about demonstrations in Egypt against the Arab nation's enemy, Israel, Al-Qadhdhafi said that the Arba revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland have proposed to make Sudan their general headquarters for the Arab nation's command. This proposal has been submitted to the various Arab factions for approval. He said: We are honored to make Sudan a headquarters for the revolutionary command in the Arab homeland.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab and the great guest, Col al-Qadhdhafi, drove in an open car in the outer yard of the airport. The masses received them with slogans praising the Arab nation, unity, and solidarity.

On another level, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, announced that during the talks Col al-Qadhdhafi made it clear that he is concerned about ending the fighting led by John Garang because it has no purpose now that Numayri, against whom the fighting was waged, has been overthrown by the Sudanese people.

In his statement to reporters at the conclusion of the talks between him and Al-Qadhdhafi, Siwar al-Dhahab said that Col al-Qadhdhafi's visit was an affirmation of the good relations between the two peoples and that Al-Qadhdhafi's stopover in Sudan reflects these relations. He pointed out that Al-Qadhdhafi's stopover was an expression of his feelings toward the Sudanese people and their leadership and a means to express his congratulations on the popular uprising and the People's Armed Forces' support for the Sudanese masses.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab described this meeting as good and as having dealt with various issues in the local, regional, and Arab arenas. He said that Col al-Qadhdhafi stressed that he had stopped all assistance to John Garang. Asked whether Ethiopia intends to halt aid to John Garang, his excellency said that Col al-Qadhdhafi dealt with this issue during the talks.

At the beginning of his meeting with Col al-Qadhdhafi, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab delivered a speech, welcoming the Libyan leader and stressing Sudan's concern about maintaining strong relations with its neighbors and the Arab countries.

Col al-Qadhdhafi delivered a speech in which he said that his stopover in Sudan is aimed at congratulating the Sudanese people on their popular revolution, noting that Numayri's regime was the cause of the deterioration of relations between the two countries and that relations will develop and strengthen following Numayri's removal.

Prime Minsiter Al-Jazuli Daf'allah also delivered a speech, declaring that the Sudanese people are concerned about maintaining brotherhood and love with the Libyan people and that brotherhood and love come before aid. He affirmed that the Sudanese revolution is a genuine one.

'Uthman Receives Message from Libyan Commander

JN191027 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sha'ban 29, May 19 (SUNA) — Defence Minister Brigadier 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad Saturday received a message from the general commander of the Libyan Armed Forces Brigaier Abu Bakr Yunis. It was understood that the message dealt with military relations between Sudan and Libya and means of developing them in the interest of the two countries, national objectives and mutual security. The message was communicated by the secretary of the Libyan brotherhood office in Khartoum Jum'ah al-Fazzani.

Libyan Relief Aid Arrives in Sudan 18 May

JN191033 Khartoum SUNA in English 1013 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sha'ban 29, May 19, (SUNA) — Eight Libyan Air Force planes landed here yesterday carrying relief aid to drought striken population in Sudan. The Libyan Red Crescent is supervising the delivery of the relief aid which includes 800 tents, 35 tons of medicines and 20 tons of food stuff.

Secretary of the Libyan Brotherhood Office (embassy) in Khartoum Jum'ah al-Fazzani said the eight planes here are the beginning of an airlift between Libya and Sudan for the transport of relief aid. Jum'ah said 4 planes would be at the disposal of the Sudanese Government to assist in delivering aid within the country.

Defence Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad who met with Jum'ah yesterday told SUNA that a convoy of 1,000 trucks with relief aid are due to arrive in Al-Fashir from Al-Kufrah within the coming few days. Muhammad said he discussed with Jum'ah ways and means of distributing relief aid.

Siwar al-Dhahab Visits Al-Ubayyid Relief Center

JN171039 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1018 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 17 May (SUNA) — The chairman of the TMC, General Siwar al-Dhahab, arrived here yesterday from Al-Ubayyid after a one-day visit during which he acquainted himself with the situations and progress of relief materials transportation for those affected by drought.

During his visit Siwar al-Dhahab explained the leadership's concern over the water scarcity issue and the sufferings of the citizens. He said the corruption and negligence that accompanied the work during the May regime were the reasons which led to the People's Armed Forces siding with the people. He directed removal of obstacles hindering water provision and distribution of relief materials to deserving citizens. He also held a meeting at the military governor's office, where he studied the best ways for solving the people's suffering and providing them with a decent living. Siwar al-Dhahab also met with the tribal shaykhs and nazirs, and directed solution of their problems.

Siwar al-Dhahab arrived in Kusti Town yesterday morning, where he inspected progress of relief materials transportation to citizens affected by the drought in the area.

Chairman Amends Employees Trade Union Law

JN181924 Khartoum SUNA in English 1742 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sha'ban 28, May 18 (SUNA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council T.M.C. Gen Siwar al-Dhahab issued a decree here today amending the employees trade unions law issued of 1977. The attorney bureau had already studied the amendment presented to the Cabinet of Ministers who submitted it to the Military Council.

It [is] worth noting that the presidential decree issued by the ousted president on May 15, 1984 had dissovled 12 professional trade unions which were on the summit of the trade unions movement like doctors, engineers and administrators trade unions.

Transitional Military Council Holds Session 19 May

JN191454 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1433 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 May (SUNA) — The TMC held a regular session here today under TMC Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab. The TMC listened to a report by TMC member Lieutenant General Muhammad Mirghani Muhammad Tahir on his recent visits to some African states. Tahir stressed that the leaders of the states he visited expressed their support for the Sudanese revolution and praised efforts to settle the southern Sudan problem. Tahir added that these leaders showed readiness to contribute to any dialogue in this regard.

The TMC discussed a report submitted on the Sudanese National Oil Company, on which the TMC will make a decision.

The TMC decided that the National Council for Friendship, Solidarity, and Peace will be affiliated with it in order to carry out its usual tasks.

TMC Reconfirms Post of Auditor General

EA182034 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 May 85

[Summary] The TMC today reconfirmed Mr Ahmad 'Uthman al-Rayyih in his appointment as auditor general of Sudan.

Council of Ministers Discusses Domestic Issues

JN191925 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1711 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 May (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers has authorized the minister of culture and information to study applications for issuing newspapers and for permitting applicants to issue papers under temporary license in accordance with disciplines to be specified by the Attorney General's Office pending the issuance of the proposed publications law, which will take some time. This came during the Council of Ministers session this morning under Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Daf'al-lah.

The Council of Ministers also listened to an oral report by the minister of health and social affairs about Sudan's participation in the WHO's 38th session in Geneva last week. It also reviewed a memorandum from the minister of finance and economic planning about the financial situation in the country as well as the supply of basic commodities.

The council also listened to several oral reports. The prime minister submitted a report on the results of the visit that His Excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, made to Sudan yesterday. He submitted another report on steps taken to form a technical committee for elections. The attorney general submitted a report on the work of the recently formed committees to investigate of the members of the defunct May regime.

Committees To Investigate Dissolved Security Organ

JN182000 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1732 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 May (SUNA) — Two committees were formed today to conduct investigations of members of the dissolved state security organ and any other person to whom these investigations refer. The investigations will be conducted in accordance with the powers given the two committees by the attorney general under the Penal Code Law, the Attorney General Law, and the law combating illegal wealth. The first committee is made up of adviser Husayn Khartoum Darfur [name as received] as chairman and retired Colonel 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman and Police Captain Jamal al-Din Abashar Isma'il as members. The second committee is made up of adviser Ibrahim Harun as chairman and retired Colonel 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir and Police Lieutenant 'Adil Muhammad 'Ali al-Nur as members.

A higher committee was formed to oversee the committees in charge of investigating the dissolved state security organ. It is made up of Public Prosecutor 'Abd al-Salam al-Amin, lawyer Mustafa 'Abd al-Qadir, Retired Colonel Ahmad al-Zayn Ibrahim Taha, and Retired Colonel Babakr Khalifah Babakr, as well as a police force representative and a comptroller general representative. This committee is entrusted to look into recommendations by the committees set up by the attorney general. It will also study reports from the compilation [Al-Hasr] committees and take necessary legal measures regarding violations that will be mentioned in these reports. It will submit recommendations to the attorney general on any matter it deems necessary.

Committee Concludes Work

JN191527 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 May (SUNA) — The military committees formed to make an inventory of the property, devices, equipment, and members of the dissolved state security organ have concluded their work. A responsible source at the People's Armed Forces General Command said that the committees collected the basic information they needed concerning the equipment and its locations.

He added that following that stage some members of the dissolved organ were released. However, their release does not mean that they were convicted or not. This will be followed by legal action under the competence of the attorney general in order to conduct the required investigations, receive complaints against the organ's members wherever they are, and bring them to trial. The source explained to SUNA that the members of the dissolved organ are regular forces and, in accordance with military procedures, they were relieved of their posts although some of them were released from detention.

Committee To 'Interrogate' Al-Tayyib on Falashas

JN181806 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1714 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 May (SUNA) — An investigation committee was formed today to interrogate suspect 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, former first vice president and chief of the dissolved state security apparatus, concerning the airlift of the Abyssinian Jews, the Falashas, and any other crimes and violations that he might have committed. Prosecutor General 'Umar Muhammad 'Abd al-'Ati issued an order delegating some of his powers, as enunciated in the penal code for 1983 and the law combating illegal wealth in 1983, to the investigation committee. The committee will be allowed to seek the assistance of any person in exercising its duties.

The committee was formed as follows: Al-Sadiq al-Shami, lawyer, as chairman; Kamal al-Jazuli, lawyer; Ahmad Ibrahim al-Tahir, lawyer; Salah Abu Zayd, legal adviser; Staff Brigadier Mu'awiyah 'Abd al-Wahhab; Colonel Amin 'Abbas al-Amin; and a representative of the Comptroller General's Office as members.

On another level, the prosecutor general has issued an order forming two committees to interrogate women detainees who belonged to the defunct regime in accordance with the penal code and the law combating illegal wealth. The first committee is composed of legal adviser Husayn Muhammad Khalil as chairman and Police Major Hamid 'Abd al-Rahman Hamid as a member. It will interrogate Dr Mrs Fatimah 'Abd al-Mahmud, Mrs Nafisah Ahmad al-Amin, and Mrs Amal 'Abbas. The second committee will be under the chairmanship of legal adviser 'Abid al-Sinari and will include Police Captain Taha Abu Bakr Sabrah as a member. It will interrogate Mrs 'Azizah Husayn, Mrs Fatimah Khalil, and Professor Su'ad Ibrahim 'Isa.

Furthermore, the prosecutor general also issued an order forming investigating teams to interrogate political and other detainees in the various Sudanese regions. The investigating committees, which were formed in the Eastern Region, Darfur, Kordofan, and the Northern Region, will consist of representatives from the Comptroller General's Office, the People's Armed Forces, and police. The committees will be chaired by Judges 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Salih, Ja'far al-Shaykh al-Sanusi, 'Ali Muhammad al-Hilu, and Hisham Mahjub al-Sayyid.

Radio SPLA: Attempt To Smuggle Out Al-Tayyib Foiled

EA171541 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Informed sources close to Radio SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] have disclosed that a major general went to Kober Prison in Khartoum North with a pretext to investigate 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, the former first vice president under Numayri. It was discovered by members of the Free Officers Organization and other patriotic officers that there was a plan to smuggle 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib out of the country.

A USA relief aircraft, which had been provided, was waiting for the mission. This was arranged with the full knowledge of the ruling Military Council. The plot was, however, foiled and aborted by the gallant patriotic officers.

According to the official SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] spokesman, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, commander in Chief of the SPLA and chairman of the Executive committee of the SPLM and leader of the Free Officers Organization, has congratulated the Free Officers Organization for their brilliant success.

Official Denies Numayri's Extradition Requested

NC171729 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Rabat, 17 May (MENA) — Vice Admiral Yusuf Husayn, member of the Sudanese TMC, has stressed that Sudan has not submitted any official request to Egypt to extradite former President Ja'far Numayri. He also stated that relations between the Egyptian and Sudanese people are greater than individuals, and hence Numayri's presence in Egypt does not adversely affect these relations.

In an interview with a MENA correspondent in Rabat, Vice Admiral Husayn said that there are no specific charges against former President Numayri. Asked to comment on reports that General Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the TMC, has visited Cairo and has held an unpublicized meeting with President Mubarak, the Sudanese official said: Why would there be a need for a secret meeting between President Mubarak and General Siwar al-Dhahab? Our policy is clear and known to the entire world. We do not resort to secrecy, especially with President Mubarak whom we hold in esteem and respect.

Answering a question on Sudan's relations with Egypt, Libya, and Ethiopia, the Sudanese official said: We maintain equal relations with all states. These relations are based on independent decisionmaking and non-intervention in internal affairs. In our first communique [on the coup], we included a special paragraph concerning our relations with Egypt. The integration agreements codify what already exists between the Egyptian and Sudanese people. Vice Admiral Husayn noted that Sudan is striving to end differences with neighboring states. He said that the situation with Ethiopia is improving and both countries are showing good will. Several ministerial committees will be formed to resolve outstanding problems between Sudan and Ethiopia.

Concerning the Palestinian issue, the Sudanese official said: Our stand is known. From the outset it was declared that we firmly support a resolution of this issue. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was among the first officials to visit Khartoum following the coup.

Vice Admiral Husayn said that Sudan's relations with the Soviet Union and the United States are good. We have received messages from the Soviet Union supporting our foreign policy and the strengthening of bilateral relations. Also, the United States has not stopped its aid to Sudan following the removal of the former regime. The Sudanese official said: On this occasion I wish to thank all the Arab and European states that have helped us, especially Saudi Arabia and Egypt, whose aircraft continue to bring in aid to Sudan.

The Sudanese official stressed that the transitional period will not last more than a year, after which power will be transferred to the people. Elections will be held at the end of the transitional period and a constituent assembly will be formed.

Vice Admiral Yusuf Husayn is currently visiting Rabat as the head of a Sudanese delegation. King Hassan II of Morocco will receive the delegation today. The delegation will then leave for Mauritania, then return to Tunisia to meet with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

Communist Party Asks for Numayri's Extradition

NC191825 Paris AFP in English 1753 GMT 19 May 85

[Excerpts] Damascus, May 19 (AFP) — The secretary of the Sudanese Communist Party, Muhammad Ibrahim Nuqud, has asked Egypt to extradite ousted Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. In an interview with *AL-HADAF*, organ of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, due out tomorrow, Mr. Nuqud said: "Numayri should be returned to the Sudanese people... We cannot agree that Egypt, which has always been a haven for nationalists, should become a haven for torturers."

Mr. Nuqud also said that Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon and former Israeli president Yitzhak Navon, had held secret negotiations in Khartoum with Mr. Numayri over the transfer of Ethiopian Jews to Israel. "The Israeli submachine guns used by Sudanese security forces to put down the people's uprising was part of the price paid by Israel for the transfer," Mr. Nuqud added, in a reference to the violent riots that preceded the coup in Sudan.

The Communist Party secretary said that under the Numayri regime, Sudan had been turned into a training camp for opponents of the Ethiopian, South Yemeni, Libyan and Syrian governments. He accused Egypt of occupying part of Sudanese territory and of preventing Sudanese fishing vessels from fishing in Sudanese territorial waters. Mr. Nuqud demanded the abrogation of the common defence agreement between Egypt and Sudan, which he said was signed by Mr. Numayri under pressure from Egypt.

Ba'th Official Comments on Party's Role in Coup

JN171530 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1424 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 17 May (SUNA) — In a statement to SUNA, Badr al-Din Muddaththir Amin, from the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Sudan, has said that the party is getting ready to change its working program in order to suit democratic and popular action. Amin pointed out that the party was not isolated from the masses during the era of the deposed dictator. He said that the party struggles in order to make its growth balanced in all Sudan's regions. He said that the coming weeks will promise great activity regarding the party's popular action. He stressed that the party's current program is to struggle for democracy.

On the party's definition of its tasks during the transitional stage, Amin said that the implementation of the tasks necessitates firm cooperation among the popular establishment that led the uprising, the Council of Ministers, and the TMC. He called for the participation of workers in the Trade Unions Grouping in order to make it a national alliance and a wide political establishment that expresses the people's needs and leads popular and political action in achieving the tasks of the stage. He also called for restoring the Central Bank's full control over foreign currency [words indistinct]. He called for implementing investments in the field of popular housing in order to solve the housing problem.

Badr al-Din Amin pointed out that the party has deep roots in Sudan and that it understands the country's problems and deals with them within the framework of its strong socialist ideology.

Regarding integration between Sudan and Egypt, he said that the party does not view the essence of this integration as negative, despite the fact that integration during the defunct May regime's era was similar to the various issues Numayri dealt with on the domestic level. He pointed out that the slogan of integration [words indistinct] the deposed president to implement it out of the belief that it would strengthen his position. Badr al-Din Amin called for making the integration a popular one. He also stressed the need to correct the effects the deposed regime has had on Sudanese-Egyptian relations. He said that this could be achieved by submitting the whole issue to discussion among the various parties in the two countries.

Badr al-Din Amin pointed out that the party has no exiled cadres, and that the party members who are abroad have played their role in full in the service of the national issue. He explained that the party has established the Sudanese People's Alliance, which includes many national parties and personalities. He said that that alliance played a great role in toppling the regime. He stressed that the party is ready to cooperate with all the forces that are concerned about democracy.

FRG To Fund River Transport, Water Supply Aid

JN180948 Khartoum SUNA in English 0940 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sha'ban 28, May 18 (SUNA) — Federal Germany will shortly sign an additional 3.6 million D. mark technical aid agreement with Sudan to boost the river transport sector in the country. The Federal German Government granted Sudan 11.6 [million] D. marks for the same purpose in the year 1981.

Another aid agreement, also to be signed by the governments of the two countries, will provide Sudan with a 10.6 million marks for the construction of 60 rural water supply stations in the Northern and Central Regions.

Workshop on Drought in Darfur Region Inaugurated

JN181735 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, May 18 (SUNA) — Chairman of the TMC 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab who is also chairman of national committee for relief said that Darfur Region faced and still faces serious problems of which drought and desertification problems come first which led to its announcement as a region of catastrophes last year. This came in his address delivered before the inaugural session of the workshop for the development and rehabilitation of Darfur Region.

Siwar al-Dhahab affirmed that the government exert strenuous efforts to overcome the serious situation resulting from drought and desertification. Siwar al-Dhahab expressed hope that the workshop will result in studies and researches to correct the wrong policies in the field of environment. Siwar al-Dhahab welcomed the international contribution to solve the problems which obstacle the country's progress.

The Darfur Region's military governor also addressed the session pointing out that the estimated cost for the region's development projects amount to 106 million dollar.

United Nations resident representative for development in Sudan conducted a report on drought and desertification problems and efforts exerted to solve them.

The first work session was addressed by representatrives of donor countries and organizations announcing their original consent on the proposals of Darfur Region's government for development.

Workshop Ends; Strategy Outlined

JN191849 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1716 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 May (SUNA) — The Darfur Region workshop for reconstruction and development concluded here today after stressing the need to make the necessary arrangements to implement a future development strategy in Darfur Region in light of urgent relief for citizens affected by drought and desertification. This will take place in coordination between the central and regional governments on one hand and representatives of countries and organizations which extend aid on the other. It has been decided that these countries and organizations will hold a meeting in Khartoum 1-8 June to study projects in the future development strategy, to coordinate between these projects, and to get countries and organizations to choose the projects that they will fund and implement.

The strategy includes projects in the areas of agriculture and environmental construction for providing both vegetative and animal food and water as well as for establishing settlements to accomodate refugees. It includes other projects in the area of social services with the purpose of providing health and educational services, taking care of environmental hygiene, establishing roads and bridges, stopping or limiting desertification, and preserving the soil. The workshop also decided that a permanent UN office for development will be opened in Al-Fashir, northern Darfur, to follow up and implement the future development strategy projects.

The workshop began work yesterday morning and held four working sessions to discuss several working papers about drought and desertification in the region as well as future development strategy projects in the region.

Defense Minister Refutes Claims About South

JN191053 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 May (SUNA) — Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, TMC member and defense minister, has denied reports that the purpose behind declaring southern Sudan a disaster area is to transport military equipment there. In a statement to SUNA, the minister said: I would like to state that this is not true and the information we have had from the affected areas in southern Sudan confirms that 80 people are dying from starvation every day. The minister added: As Armed Forces, we can send whatever we want to our forces along the border stip with Ethiopia without any need for a cease-fire with Garang's forces.

'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad said: I hope that Brother Garang will understand the dimensions of the starvation problem in southern Sudan, and that we are not deceiving him when we say that we wish to send foodstuff to our starving kinfolk in southern Sudan.

On the other hand, Muhammad Bashir Hamid, minister of culture and information, told SUNA the following: What Garang has claimed is untrue. The south is a starvation area and the call to Garang stems from purely humanitarian motives to facilitate the arrival of foodstuffs to our brothers in the south.

He added: If the purpose of the call is to transport military equipment, then it would be easy to verify.

Some radios have carried statements by John Garang explaining that the purpose of declaring the Southern Region a disaster area is to transport military equipment to it.

Radio SPLA Details Capture of Soldiers, Vehicle

EA171544 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1540 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Radio SPLA correspondent at the Rhino Battalion Headquarters in Bahr al-Ghazal administrative area has informed Radio SPLA that Rhino Battalion engineers demolished on April 14th, 1985, along Wau-Aweil Road, a commercial lorry which was carrying military personnel and equipment.

It is to be recalled that Rhino Battalion had earlier captured the commercial lorry of Samuel Lorou Bol between Rumbek and Tonj because it was carrying military equipment and personnel.

The commander of Rhino Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel P.S.C. Martin Makur Aleo, warned all citizens of Bahr al-Ghazal that all land and air routes are closed and that any movement is entirely at the movers' own risk and responsibility.

In a related development, a force of Rhino Battalion, led by Private Isaac Alier Akech, on May 13th captured an Army commercial vehicle No 329 with the following soldiers who are now under SPLA custody and political orientation, and they are: Sgt John Mayar Boi, the driver, whose number is 411838; Sgt Abdu Garang Aluwong who carried the number 115713; in addition to five others, all corporals.

These soldiers are from the 12th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, in Wau, and were captured 5 miles from Wau, on Wau-Raga Road.

SDAR

Information Ministry Denounces New Moroccan Wall

LD172132 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Western Sahara — The Saharan Information Ministry today made public a communique in which it denounces the construction by Moroccan forces of a fifth wall between the areas of Amgala and Guelta which aims at extending Moroccan expansionism as far as the Mauritanian border and forms a new phase the military escalation. The Saharan communique says that the fighters of the Saharan Liberation Army intercepted a monarchist column as it left Amgala, in particular at (Oudiah Lekhiam), (Oudiah Bouzian), and (Lakhnab), causing considerable human and material losses for the Moroccan forces. It stresses that the construction of the fifth wall is in fact aimed at compensating, with a display of muscle in the south, for the current failure of the fourth wall built in the northern part.

USSR Solidarity Committee Sends Congratulations

LD191905 Algiers APS in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] SDAR, 19 May (APS) — A communique issued today by the SDAR Ministry of Information and Culture stated that the Presidency of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity has sent a cable of congratulations and solidarity to the Polisario leadership on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the outbreak of the armed struggle. The Soviet committee announced its stance supporting "a peaceful and a just political solution for the existing conflict in northwest Africa" and expressed its support for the Saharan people's legitimate aspirations and its right to self-determination without interference from imperialism or any foreign pressure. The Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity has also expressed its hopes that the Polisario leadership will score new victories in its struggle to achieving the legitimate aspirations of the Saharan people.

The Spanish supporting committee "Zaragoza" has announced its total support for the fighters of the Saharan People's Liberation Army under the leadership of the Polisario Front in their struggle for the total liberation of their homeland.

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Front Expresses 'Readiness' for Talks

LD171157 Kuwait KUNA in English
1052 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Kuwait, May 17 (KUNA) — The Eritrean Peoples' Liberation Front (EPLF) has expressed here its readiness to start negotiations with the Ethiopian Government of Mengistu Haile Mariam without any preconditions in order to find a peaceful political settlement that will ensure the right of self-determination for the people of Eritrea.

The front also appealed to the Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) to mediate a ceasefire in the disputed territory and a halt of Ethiopian military expeditions to clear the atmosphere for an eventual dialogue between the Eritrean revolution and the Ethiopian Government.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, member of the EPLF Political Bureau and head of the External Relations Department, Al-Amin Mohammed Said also disclosed that efforts (?were under) way by several parties to arrange a ceasefire in Eritrea and pave the way before a peace settlement of the Eritrean question.

The official, who did not identify the parties mediating the ceasefire, also urged the Arab League and the ICO to implement their previous resolutions on a halt of the fighting in Eritrea and an end of Ethiopian military expeditions.

Said, currently on a visit to Kuwait accompanied by member of the Front's Central Committee and head of Information Department, Ahmed Badouri, said that more than one and a half million Eritreans are suffering from a devastating famine and military action by Ethiopian troops.

The EPLF official welcomed the participation of world organisations and interested parties in the current mediation efforts between Eritrean rebels and the Addis Ababa authorities but indicated that such involvement should be away from any pressure or conditions that may undermine independence of the Ethiopian decision or contain the (?Eritrean) revolution.

On his front's relations with the Soviet Union, he said that Moscow deals with the situation in Eritrea in the framework of the Soviet strategic perspective of conditions in the African Continent and added that relations are maintained between the two sides.

However, the official urged that Soviet relations with the government of Mengistu Haile mariam should not be at the expense of the Eritrean people's cause.

He emphasized that the EPLF is not motivated in its struggle by any ethnic or religious ideology and stressed that it was up to the Eritrean people to determine their identity, adding that all efforts should be directed towards liberation.

Asked on the situation inside Eritrea, the official affirmed solidness of the military front but complained of the receding Arab interest either at the material, moral or information level.

Said indicated that hundreds of the thousands of homeless Eritreans die every day from famine while the people suffer from inadequate health, social and educational services and appealed to Arab governments and organisations to extend urgent aid.

The official also urged humanitarian organisations to make sure that donated food and aid supplies are delivered to those in need inside Eritrea rather than delivering them to refugee camps in Sudan, since, he said, this has led thousands of Eritreans to abandon their homes causing a massive exodus in the direction of the borders and an eventual displacement of entire villages.

He said that the Ethiopian authorities' refusal to take over or exchange some 10 thousand Ethiopian prisoners of war held captive by Eritrean freedom fighters had further complicated the situation "and added to the supply and financial burdens of the front."

On attempts to unify Eritrean liberation factions, the EPLF Politburo member said his movement is very interested in the matter and is keen on realizing the plan on the basis of maintaining political autonomy of every faction and away from attempts "to extract political decisions serving a particular regime."

The experience of the past 23 years, according to the official, has underlined unity of the Eritrean people, comprising nine different ethnic groups and three creeds, in spite of the frequent liquidation attempts mounted by some factions to dominate the scene, saeed said.

The EPLF functionary stated that his faction is in favour of a national coalition bringing together all Eritrean movements under a (?leading council) which, after liberation, he suggested, can make up the nucleus for a representative parliament ensuring political pluralism.

At the military fornt, the Eritrean official maintained that after nine years of armed confrontation, the Addis Ababa government is now convinced of futility of the military option as the best means to resolve the Eritrean question. "Despite the massive mobilisation of 135,000 troops equipped with the latest tanks and warplanes, the Ethiopians had failed to impose political settlements on the Eritrean people," he stressed.

Said said since 1975, the Ethiopian regime had mounted seven major military expeditions and instead of scoring any military victory they suffered defeats and heavy human and material losses. During their stay in Kuwait, members of the Eritrean delegation plan to meet with a number of senior state officials and heads of professional and humanitarian organisations to secure additional support for their cause.

Border Security Agreement Signed With Kenya

EA171103 Nairobi KNA in English
1015 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Lodwar May 17: A good neighbourliness meeting between government officials from Turkana District in Kenya and Galeb Nahamer Bako in Ethiopia has resolved to intensify security patrols in Lake Turkana with a view to eradicate piracy near the River Omo estuary. The resolution was contained in a joint communique signed by the head of the Kenya delegation, Mr Paul Genga, and the head of the Ethiopia delegation, Mr Teshaye Alemayoh, after a meeting held at Jinka in Ethiopia.

In the communique, the Ethiopian delegation pledged to release a boat and free fishing nets belonging to Turkana fishermen who were ambushed in Lake Turkana while fishing near the River Omo estuary. On cattle rustling, the officials from both sides resolved to hold joint leaders meeting along the common border with the aim of reducing ugly border incidents and promote peace among the nomads living along the border.

It was further resolved that the meetings should be held at least once every three months to enable the border district officers to meet regularly to review the border situation. On animal disease, it was resolved that the two districts should hold simultaneous immunisation campaigns on their livestock against various disease. On poaching it was agreed that both sides would intensify anti-poaching campaigns in an effort to ensure that wildlife on either sides were not killed unnecessarily for either food or game trophies.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Holds Talks With SWAPO's Nujoma

EA171943 Dar es Salaam External Service in English
1600 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The chairman of the Frontline States, Mwalimu Nyerere, today held talks with the president of the SWAPO, Ndugu Sam Nujoma of Namibia, at Mwalimu's residence at Msasani in Dar es Salaam. A state house statement said the discussions focused on latest developments in the liberation struggle in southern Africa with a special emphasis on the Namibian issue.

Ndugu Nujoma and his delegation arrived in Dar es Salaam this morning from Lusaka, Zambia, to brief the chairman of the Frontline States on the situation inside Namibia. The discussions at Msasani between Mwalimu Nyerere and the SWAPO leader were also attended by the foreign minister, Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa, and other government leaders. After the talks Ndugu Nujoma left Dar es Salaam for Lusaka.

UGANDA

Obote Discusses Elections at Kumi Rally

EA191108 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1255 GMT 12 May 85

[Speech by Ugandan President Milton Obote at public rally in Kumi District; intercepted in progress — live]

[Excerpts] .... We had some ideas of what to do with the votes, and we put those ideas in the manifesto. Now, read it. You will wonder the extent of the work we have done across this book. We have not done everything. But time will come, when all these will be achieved. So I have not come here to beg for a vote. And if there are people here or elsewhere in Uganda who are (?thinking) of election next month or when, I think they should continue to go and dig. I cannot call an election without registration. (?You people) have been registered. You haven't been registered. And then you are being bothered. Instead of doing your work, you are being bothered with policies in the market places, everywhere. What for? These days, everywhere in Uganda you hear say: Election, [word indistinct] election. Election will come, but allow people to work. If you don't want to work, you just want election, election: What do you want that election? Now the rains are here. People are being bothered. Don't work, come and listen to me, don't work, come and listen to me!

Now, when elections come, all of us will be involved. I will be involved because I don't want Semogerere [president-general of Democratic Party]. All my ministers will be involved. But allow us time to do a little that we are doing now. Now you are talking, you want water in Kumi. Instead of allowing us to go and negotiate for this water pump in India, you want to pin us down here about election. Do you see what is coming? Ministers come from all over Uganda. Now if you pin them down in their districts because of election, and you want agricultural machinery, you want your crops to be paid, you want your schools to be rehabilitated, you want your hospitals to be rehabilitated, you want your roads to be (?remade). But you are pinning them down in their districts because of election. Who is going to build them? To build them?

The new government? Which new government? Which new Government? You see, the time has passed when even myself, when we used to say: If I go to parliament, I will do A.B.C.D for you. That time has passed. What can you do? You, one member from Lango there, one member from teso, one from Buganda or Bugisu, one from Ankole, Bunyoro — What can you do? You, one person? That is all politics. The new politics is politics of the party. What is your party? We say if you elect so and so he belongs to our party. We, as a party, we shall do this for Uganda. (?That is) what we say: We say: Democratic Party [DP] What do you know?

Yesterday, when Amin took away freedom, you were quiet. Amin took freedom from all of us, and some DP people of Uganda was left to the Congress. The fight to make friends with other countries to help the people of Uganda was left to the Congress. I went to exile. The former president of Uganda — what was his name? — Yusuf Lule — went to exile. Another former president, Godfrey Binaisa, went into exile; another person called president-general of DP. Now, we all went to different countries. At least the country to which I went came and helped us regain our freedom. But (?our) other brothers went to other places where they were eating butter and bread when you were suffering here.

So if you are a true member of the Congress don't allow anybody to decieve you that you must not be with people of this religion, or people of this clan or people of that tribe. Let us unite. We begin with the unity in the villages. You come to constituency level and then to district level, and we shall unite Uganda. That is the mission of the Uganda People's Congress. It is not a mission which we started yesterday.

From our inception, we talked of the unity of the people of Uganda. Today we are called Uganda Peoples Congress [UPC] But our first name was Uganda National Congress. When other persons in the national congress started forming other parties — some called DP, some called progressive, some called Uganda Union, some called Uganda what, we said, now, trouble is coming. How can a breakaway party say that it is for unity? This is a breakaway party from UPC. Some persons, who were very instrumental in the formation of the DP, were members of the Uganda National Congress [UNC].

Now, my brother, Semogerere, is sometimes very slippery. He will say: But so and so was not a member of the UNC. Let him say that, then we shall put this other question to him: Why were they not members of the first nationalist party in Uganda? The first nationalist party is formed and you are a sane man, an adult, and you don't join. That is a breakaway thing. If you want to be in the mainstream of things — you see, when I see a tree like that — you see that tree there — but if I see, you see that trunk is here. So you be the trunk of the tree. And I invite you all to join UPC.

You strengthen the party here. In other districts people are strengthening the party. We are under command. We are under the command of the party Constitution to recruit even Paul Semogerere into UPC, or anybody who believes in the principles and policies of the UPC is free to join UPC, and that is why we are receiving tremendous support throughout Uganda, because we are a party with broad minds.

In 1980 we came with this policy of reconciliation. The policy of reconciliation is a policy of unity. But I want to tell you this. There must be no mistake on reconciliation. When we say reconciliation we are saying: Let no Teso people be at loggerheads with the people in Bugisu. When we say reconciliation we are saying: Let no people say that because Amin came from West Nile therefore, all the people of West Nile are bad.

When we say reconciliation we are saying: Because Amin was a Muslim therefore you should argue that every Muslim is bad. We are saying no to all such arguments. Amin's crime is Amin's crime: nothing to do with people of West Nile and nothing to do with Muslims. But there are criminals, there are criminals, there are people who committed crimes when Amin was here. They committed crimes in Lango, in Acholi, in Buganda, in Eastern region. Even here in Kumi, Bunyoro, they committed crimes. Sometimes you know some of them so you begin to wonder: What's Obote doing? Reconciliation with these criminals? I have no reconciliation with a criminal. The policy of reconciliation does not cover criminals. But I am running a constitutional government. I want evidence. Just report to the police with evidence. The law will get them.

Now, let me say one or two things then I sit down. I heard one statement here. I haven't (?listened) carefully what it was all about, but I am still here. I will listen to it more, about some T-shirts. I don't understand (?this), but I want to leave you with a message I once addressed last year to the people of APAC. I am your servant, it is because you elected delegates from here to go to Kampala, and I am your president. I became president of the party because of your votes. I became president of Uganda because of your votes. Can you imagine me, the (?nationalist), kicking you in your face? Can I turn round and spit in your face? Can I turn round and start insulting you? I can't. I can't. [Applause] So I told the people of APAC, I said: Election is coming and there are members of UPC who want to try their luck in the primaries. I said: If you want to try your luck in the primaries, dont destroy the party. Don't try to say: These are my people. You, one single person, you have got people? Your own people, whom you can control? It is dangerous for you to allow yourself to be controlled by one man.

(?What we told) the people of APAC we are repeating to you today. I have not sent anybody anywhere in Uganda to be a candidate. I have not sent and I will not send. How can I be the leader of UPC when behind everybody's back I say: You go there, you go here? How can I be? So if anybody moves around in anywhere in Teso or in Uganda saying that Obote has sent me, I think I have given you enough to say: You are a hopeless fool, get out. [Laughter][Sentence indistinct] You send me people, you send me people, I work with them and we send them back to you. We send back to you ideas of development. How can I come around in Bugisu or in Acholi, everywhere in Uganda and start sending candidates? [Sentence indistinct]

I was told back in another district that there were some persons who go around saying they have money and that Obote gave them the money. Fellow citizens, I have no money to give to the (?voters). And I am also wondering if these few members of UPC have become so rich. I want to know how did they become so rich? [Applause]

No, I have no candidate, I have no favorite, I have no sugar to give to you quietly at night or salt or a bull or a bicycle. I don't have, I don't have, fellow citizens. [Sentence as heard]

I have talked about government policy. I talked also about party matters and there are one or two things I want to discuss before I go to sit down. I am very much concerned and so indeed is the government, with the menace coming from Karamoja. This matter must come to an end. There are persons who are not in their homes [words indistinct]. Government shall try to give them some assistance immediately. We also want to work out a new method of trying to stop the menace. This cannot continue to go on.

If the Karamojong think that they are the only people who can shoot, I think they are very wrong. [Words indistinct] a further message today. Those leaders of the cattle rustlers, they must stop the exercise. It is not going to continue. We have tried to do this thing in as a humane manner as possible, but the policy has been taken as weakness on the part of the government. A government supported by millions and millions of Ugandans cannot be weak. Even it it means curtailing some other projects, we shall curtail those projects and destroy this menace.

Now the dead UPC came back to life in 1980 and is going strong. It is going strong. [Applause] And all those people who are working in all different departments support government policy. I was received this afternoon here by a brigadier from Teso, then when some permanent secretary stood up I heard some names that appeared to be Teso name. I can go on mentioning some other departments. But you people. [Sentence as heard] Who is going to build this country? You give somebody a good job, a brigadier, a permanent secretary, what not, he doesn't want to do it. He wants to be in parliament.

Guerrilla Leader Flees, Seeks U.S. Asylum

LD201047 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Ugandan guerrilla leader Yoweri Museveni has fled to Sweden and is seeking political asylum in the USA, according to reports from Kampala. Museveni is the leader of the underground National Resistance Army [NRA], which has been fighting President Milton Obote's government for the past 4 years.

Last week reports from Kampala said that NRA guerrillas had fled from their bases in Luwero area, 40 miles north of Kampala, into western Uganda, where they were terrorizing local villagers.

Army Chief Repeats Charges Against Church

AB181100 Paris AFP in English 1046 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Kampala, May 18 (AFP) — Uganda's Army chief of staff, Brigadier Smith Opon Acak, has repeated his allegation that some church missions have been helping anti-government dissidents, despite denials by the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Uganda, Emmanuel Cardinal Nsubuga.

The Kampala vernacular daily, *MUNNO*, which is published by the Roman Catholic Church here, reported today that Brig Acak told a public rally on the outskirts of Kampala yesterday that his soldiers were free to attack any place, including churches, where the enemy was to be found. Boxes of ammunition had been found by the security forces at the Bukalamuli Roman Catholic parish, west of Kampala, and troops were sent last year to the Namugongo Martyrs' Shrine after it was confirmed that there were dissidents in the area, Brig Acak said, according to *MUNNO*. The Army chief of staff was repeating charges he made in January, which drew an angry response from Cardinal Nsubuga. The cardinal told a press conference at the time that the Uganda Government had apologised over the Namugongo incident and had given him five million Uganda shillings (8,700 dollars) as compensation for damage done to property there.

Cardinal Nsubuga said he was ready to return the compensation money if the government continued reporting that there had been dissidents at Namugongo being helped by the church, and the matter appeared to have been resolved amicably last week when President Milton Obote hosted a lunch for the cardinal. But according to *MUNNO* today, the chief of staff told the rally at Bwaise Township yesterday that he stood by his earlier statement and that the cardinal could return the compensation money if he wanted. Cardinal Nsubuga flew to the United States on Wednesday and is expected to return around the end of the month.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

High Commission Notes Expulsion of Ghanaians

AB171822 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] About 300 Ghanaians have been repatriated from Equatorial Guinea. A report from the Ghana High Commission in Lagos to the National Mobilization Committee in Accra said the Ghanaians, who were recruited from Nigeria, have been flown to the Nigerian capital. The report added that the Equatorial Guinea ambassador to Nigeria has already arranged to convey the Ghanaians to the Apapa port for their eventual repatriation to Ghana.

RWANDA

Al-Qadhdhafi Continues Visit to Kigali

Meets With Habyarimana

LD162023 Tripoli JANA in English 1824 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] Kigali, Shaban 26, May 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — This evening in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, a closed meeting was held between the leader of the revolution and President Juvenal Habyarimana of the Republic of Rwanda.

Attends Banquet

LD171116 Tripoli JANA in English 0950 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Kigali, 27 Shaban, 17 May, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — President Major General Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda last night held a dinner banquet in honour of the leader of the revolution and accompanying delegation. Present were members of the government, the party and diplomatic missions accredited to Rwanda.

The leader of the revolution and President Juvenal Habyarimana exchanged speeches during the dinner banquet. Following is the leader's:

Brother President and dear friend Juvenal Habyarimana, Mrs President, dear friends of Rwanda, messrs guests present.

I would like to express my deep feelings as regards the contents of your speech and would like to voice my agreement with your viewpoints concerning African and international issues which you have dealt with in your speech. I am overwhelmed by the popular reception from the men and women friends in Rwanda extended to us upon our arrival to your beautiful country, reception which expresses the warmth of friendship between ourselves and the depth of African brotherhood linking the peoples of Libya and Rwanda. We in Libya are indebted to you because you have made several fraternal visits to your second country Libya which unfortunately we were unable to reciprocate in full. This very visit is only a part of it. Your visits were undoubtedly responsible for paving the way for the development of cooperation between the two countries and the deepening of friendship between us. The consolidation of personal relations and the laying of cooperation basis in fact is due to your visits and those of your wife to Libya. I am satisfied with the development of relations and cooperation between the two countries and hope this visit is a new factor to boost these relations and cooperation to a more advanced stage. This meeting between us today in Rwanda consolidates joint African action in a way capable of realising and bringing closer the African unity sought by all Africans. Allow me to say that I am sorry to see that at a time when the imperialist-racist threats increase against our African Continent, requiring unity of efforts by Africans to confront them, we find that racism and Zionism have realized a gain by infiltrating our ranks like it is happening now on the borders of this country where we are today meeting, I mean by the other country Zaire. As we meeting here at African level, dirty agent Mobuto is meeting with his racist masters in occupied Palestine. African people however, will not leave such agents without punishment. The African people in the Sudan have punished stooge Numayri when he collaborated with Zionists and smuggled Falashas to occupied Palestine. He cooperated with Zionists hoping to extend his political life but that was the end of his political life. The African people in Egypt had also punished Sadat the agent of Zionism when he recognized the Zionist racist regime. Sadat had cooperated with Zionists hoping too for an extention of his political life. He too brought about the end of his life. The African people in Egypt are still pursuing Zionist agents in Egypt. Yesterday there erupted popular demonstrations rebelling against the regime of subservience to Zionism, that of Husni Mubarak. We voice our absolute support for the revolution of the Egyptian people until it liquidates the regime of subservience of to Zionism in Egypt. Libya places all its capabilities at the disposal of the Egyptian people and calls for a further extention of rebellion in Egypt to reach civil disobedience then popular revolution as was the case in Sudan. We also address this call to the African people in Zaire to follow the example of the Sudanese people and topple the regime of dirty agent Mobutu. This is not intervention on our part in the affairs of others since these regimes are before all African regimes which by adopting pro-Zionist policies, have constituted a threat to us and to our African continent. We are confronting the infiltration of the Zionists in the heart of Africa and the real victory realized by the racist Pretoria regime in South Africa, I mean the series of surrender agreements which it has signed with the confrontation states. In the face of this, African peoples should double efforts to stop this inflitration and realise a final victory in Palestine and South Africa.

The leader went on to say: We know that cooperation between the racist regimes in Palestine and South Africa has reached the level of joint production of nuclear weapons. This was done with the backing, protection and cover of the U.S.A. which has demonstrated its inability to respect its position as a world super power and was affected by megalomania to the extent it believed it could control all peoples. We have however have dealt it a blow that has brought it back to its senses in the Lebanon, where U.S. troops fled on foot, in helicopters, in boats and swimming to seek protection in ships. They fled in a race with the fish in the sea of Lebanon when the blows of the heroic popular resistance intensified and when one Lebanese decided to die against hundreds of American troops. We have lost one martyr who blew himself up to kill 300 Americans in the Lebanon. Another did the same against French troops and a third against Israeli troops in south Lebanon. We have inflicted a humiliating defeat on imperialist, and racist Zionists in the Lebanon, and before that, they were defeated by the small Vietnamese people. The revolution in Nicaragua and in Cuba triumped in spite of America. It will also triumph in El Salvador, Guatemala and the rest of the countries dominated by pro-U.S. fascism. We place our capabilities at the disposal of resistance in South Africa and the Palestinian resistance in order to inflict yet another defeat on the racists in Palestine and in South Africa. We are determined to defeat them. Israel will ultimately disappear to be replaced by Palestine and South Africa by Azania, as did North Rhodhesia which was replaced by Zimbabwe and South Rhodhesia which was replaced by Mozambique. Yesterday, French colonialism believed Algeria was indivisible from France. Here is Algeria today an independent African state. Therefore we believe in victory and our ability to bring it about. We are fighting for self-defence and announce that Africa is for Africans. They should lift their dirty hands off Africa. Down with the agents of imperialism and Zionism in Africa, the (?likes) of agent Mobutu who will ultimately fall as did hireling Sadat and Numyri. Long live the struggle of MJSLF [expansion unknown] for unity, liberation and progress. Long live the fruitful cooperation between Rwanda and Libya. The struggle continues. We are ready for revolution.

The President of Rwanda Juvenal Habyarimana on his part delivered a speech in which he first greeted the leader of the revolution and the delegation accompanying him to the Republic of Rwanda. He said: Rwanda feels greatly honoured to receive you as a friend bringing with him strong friendship and brotherhood for the peoples. We feel honoured to receive in your person the leader of the great al Fateh revolution thanks to which the Libyan people have realized achievements. This impels us to praise it in expression of hopes for progress and real democracy for the Libyan people who have become stronger thanks to the gains realized by this revolution.

He added: The first visit you undertake to our country has a special meaning. It shows the quality of the genuine relations of friendships and cooperation linking the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the people of Rwanda, referring, to the relations established a long time ago which have been given a great impetus and which achieved positive results within the framework of bilateral cooperation between the two friendly countries, and expressing satisfaction with these results, especially realized in the fields of development in the Republic of Rwanda. He said our cooperation is essentially based on agricultural projects which are mainly orientated towards development through which we mean to realize food self-suffiency for our people. He also praised the role played by the joint Libyan-Rwandan agricultural company, confirming the company has enabled us to reduce our imports and has contributed to promoting development in our country.

Furthermore the president expressed gratitude to Jamahiriyah in its backing of the people of Rwanda in the fields of education and culture. He said the Islamic Cultural Centre will provide the youth of Rwanda with the necessary knowledge and is a realisation of our country's dream.

He explained that Rwanda stresses the importance of boosting relations based on the spirit of solidarity and integration, pointing to the importance of Arab-African cooperation in confronting economic and social challenges and saying Rwanda is committed to being always on the side of the peoples fighting for self-determination rights and control on their resources. In this respect, he reaffirmed his country's international position which he said relies essentially on international principles bases on international ethics as stipulated in the charter of the U.N. the O.A.U. and the Non-aligned Movement. In this light, he added we give major importance to the right of peoples struggling for their freedom in Namibia, Palestine and South Africa.

President Juvenal Habyarimana concluded by saying your visit is clear testimony of our joint will to always work for the consolidation of existing relations between Jamahiriyah and Rwanda.

Urges Spread of Islam

LD172342 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today led the Friday prayers at the mosque of the Islamic cultural center in Kigali, capital of Rwanda. Amid Muslims chanting Allahu Akbar [God is great] the brother leader of the revolution made an address to praying masses. He said:

Peace be upon you, together with the blessings and benedictions of God. I bring you the greetings and support of your brothers in Libya. They are putting their potential at your disposal. Libya is considered your first country. Libya is a shield and a refuge. The Islamic revolution stems from Libya, and the international Islamic call has emerged from Libya. It has reached this country. This mosque and this Islamic center have been built thanks to the international Islamic call society which came from Libya. But at the same time, we should not forget the cooperation of your Muslim brothers in the UAE with you and with us.

We appreciate the favor of our brother Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, who put his hand in ours, so that with this cooperation we were able to build this Islamic center. You must rely on your Muslim brothers in Libya and the UAE. We are ready to share everything we have with you. From Libya and the UAE we thank you, because you are hoisting the banner of Islam below the equator, in the heart of Africa. You are the ones who declare that there is only one God in the heart of Africa; you are the ones who, from the highest podiums, declare that Muhammad is the messiah of God. You declare that there is only one God and say that your prophet Muhammad is the prophet of God, despite the Christians' nonbelief in Muhammad's mission.

In this place, while you declare that there is only one God and that Muhammad is his prophet you are facing up to great challenges in these lands. You are facing up to the challenge of the Christian Church which does not recognize the prophecy of Muhammad. The Christian Church wants to do away with Islam everywhere, despite the fact that the church is not right and has no case. Those who have said that God is one of a Trinity are wrong. The church, a declared infidel, does not admit to the fact that God is one, and you Muslims are right because you believe in the fact that God is one. But you must not allow the church to triumph over you.

First, you must stick to your Islamic religion and insist that your children are taught the Islamic religion, and you teach them the Arabic language because without the Arabic language one would not understand Islam.

Furthermore, you must encourage the children of Christians to embrace Islam, and the doors of the Islamic center, the Islamic school and hospital should be open to the children of Christians. You must teach the children of Christians that Christianity is not the religion of Africans, that Islam is the religion of Africa, that Christianity is the religion of colonialism, that Islam is the religion of God. Christianity is the religion of the French, Belgian, German, and American enemies; it is also the religion of the Jews. Africans are neither Belgian, nor French, nor German. In this way you would influence the children of Christians, and they would join the ranks of Islam. As long as you do not do this the church will be striving to fight Islam in these lands, because the church relies on Belgian, French, and American colonialim, whereas you count on your Muslim brothers in the Arab homeland; your brothers in Libya and in the UAE.

Second, you must spread Islam among the idolaters in Rwanda because there is a considerable proportion of idolaters. If you do not rush in and make them enter Islam, the Christian Church will be first and it will mobilize them against you. It is the duty of each of you to introduce a number of idolaters to Islam.

You must cooperate with your Muslim brothers in Burundi, Zaire, and Uganda, because you have Muslim brothers in these countries around you. We ask you to send missionaries to these countries to establish relations between Muslims in these countries and yourself. You must be in solidarity with them and cooperate with them in everything.

Believers in God are brothers. They are your brothers, but they are living under an unjust rule in Zaire, under the rule of Mobutu, the agent of Zionism, who puts his hand in the hand of hand of the Jews stained with the blood of Muslims. Killing him is the duty of every Muslim, and so is the killing of all his infidel aides who have allied themselves with the Jews. Mobutu is a Zionist agent, and you must incite Muslims in Zaire and urge them to engage in the jihad so that Mobotu may be toppled, together with his regime. He who kills this agent will go to paradise.

Muslims must become a force to defend their religion. You must raise your head high in Rwanda, Burunda, Uganda, and Zaire. You must raise your voice high and declare that Allah is great because Africa must be Muslim. Africa is not Christian. Christians are intruders in Africa. Christians in Africa are agents of colonislism. We must wage a holy war so that Islam may spread in Africa.

The first step to consolidate Islam in Rwanda is for you to teach your children the Arabic language and Islam; then idolaters in Rwanda must be introduced to Islam. Then there must an attempt to introduce the children of Christians and young children to Islam so that they will not grow up to be Christians just because theirs parents were Christians. You would then be courageous.

This land is yours, and this is your creed. You must defend your land and creed. He who ignores this land is a Christian; he has no right to spread Christianity in Africa. As for a Muslim, he must not be afraid, because he has the right to spread Islam in Africa.

Afterward, you must send missionaries to your Muslim brothers in Uganda, Burundi, and Zaire, to unite them. You must unite your positions with theirs. If something happens to Muslims in Zaire, Muslims in Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda must stand by their side. If something happens to Muslims in Rwanda, there must be contact with Muslims in these countries so that they may side with them. You must cooperate among yourselves. If one of you needs something, you must cooperate with him and help him meet his need. You must understand that you are a great power in Africa, but the enemies want to divide you. We must love one another, whether the enemies like it or not.

From this year 1985 on, you must start having contacts with Muslims in the neighboring countries so that Muslims may protect one another; so that you may be like a solid building, as God wants you to be. God wants you to be in one rank. God wants you to fight in one rank, and he who does not do this is outside Islam and God will not let him enter paradise.

He who spreads Islam — God will bring him into paradise. He who learns the Arabic language and teaches it — God will bring him into paradise. He who introduces idolaters to Islam — God will bring him into paradise. He who introduces the children of Christians to Islam — God will bring him into paradise. And he who puts his hand in that of his Muslim brother at his side will be brought into paradise.

I have stressed to you that your brothers in the Arab homeland, from Libya to the UAE, are behind you, standing by your side. They would wage the struggle with you. We build mosques everywhere together. We extend aid to anyone in need, and we do not forget to thank our friend who has helped build this Islamic center, President Juvenal Habyarimana. He is a Rwandan and an African of your kinfolk. He could have been a Muslim like you had not Christianity been imposed on him and on his family. So, you know that Christianity has turned Islamic families into Christian ones. There must be a struggle night and day for the spreading of Islam. You must unite. I speak with our friend Habyarimana about Muslims in Rwanda, and God willing, Islam will triumph in Africa over the religion of colonialism: Christianity. It will triumph over idolatry in Africa; it will triumph over the enemies of Islam in Africa because they live in Africa. We are struggling for this. We will be with you with all our means for Islam in Africa.

Muslims, here there will be glory and eternal life for you because you are spreading Islam throughout Africa, beyond the equator. You will be rewarded and you will go to paradise because you are spreading Islam. Glory for you. You have our appreciation, and we go forward with you.

Joint Communique Published

EA191107 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi The leader of the Libyan revolution, left Kigali this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to our country. The visit was within the framework of the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between Rwandan and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ] and at the invitation of General Habyarimana, the president of the republic. During his stay in our country, the Libyan leader visited certain economic and social development projects and congratulated the Rwandan people on the progress achieved under the leadership of President Habyarimana.

As pointed out in the joint communique published today at the end of this visit, the leader of the Libyan revolution and President Habyarimana have had talks on areas of cooperation of common interest, such as bilateral cooperation and international issues. The two leaders reviewed the state of bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with the projects that have been realized. They stressed the need to strengthen and further develop bilateral cooperation in the interest of our two countries and our respective people. They reaffirmed their faith in the commitment to the fundamental principles of the OAU and UN Charters as well as their support to the Nonaligned Movement's objectives. The two leaders reiterated their commitment to the principles of self-determination of peoples, equality and sovereignty of states, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, the peaceful settlement of conflicts, and of the fight against racism, Zionism, and apartheid.

The two leaders reviewed the dangerous situation prevailing in the southern part of the African continent and condemned the policy of racial discrimination [word indistinct] as well as the [word indistinct] carried out by the white minority of the Pretoria regime, notably against the peoples of South Africa and Namibia. They hailed the heroic struggle of the South African people under the leadership of their liberation movements, and they affirmed the need to implement the UN and OAU resolutions and [words indistinct] to the Pretoria racist, minority regime.

They expressed their profound concern over the deterioration of Namibia's political situation resulting in [word indistinct] maneuvers and [words indistinct]. They pointed out the Namibian question [word indistinct]. They denounced and condemned the violation of fundamental principles and resolutions of the international community by the Pretoria racist regime which has just established an interim government, [words indistinct] a regime [words indistinct] to the detriment of the aspirations of Namibian people. They reaffirmed their unconditional and total support for the struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, the sole and only representative of the (?Namibian people).

The two leaders reaffirmed their support to the OAU resolutions on the search for peaceful and (?lasting) solution to the Chadian question. They appealed to all Chadian factions for a national reconciliation through a (?reconciliation conference).

On the Western Sahara question, they confirmed their support of the OAU and UN resolutions (?calling) for a referendum. The [word indistinct] the Saharan people, the exercise of their right to self-determination.

On the explosive situation prevailing in the Middle East resulting in the Zionist occupation of Arab territories, they vigorously condmened the [word indistinct] and expansionist policy of the Zionist regime towards [words indistinct]. the two leaders reiterated their support for the just struggle carried out by the Palestinian-Arab people.

The two (?statesmen) expressed their support for the Lebanese people as well as their national forces which [word indistinct] to the aggressive occupation and in the struggle with a view to chasing the Zionist invaders out of all Lebanese territories. The two men hailed the sacrifice imposed by Zionists [words indistinct] to national unity. President Habyarimana and Col al-Qadhdhafi vigorously condemned the cooperation beween the Zionist (?entity) and South Africa in the fields of nuclear arms production [words indistinct].

The SPLAJ and the Republic of Rwanda call for the Mediterranean to be declared a peaceful sea [words indistinct]. The Rwandan side expressed its appreciation for the SPLAJ's efforts toward realizing African unity and Afro-Arab unity and toward ensuring peace and security in the world. The two leaders affirmed their total support for the struggle carried out by all the Third World peoples in order to ensure the [words indistinct] of their natural resources as well as the establishment of international economic relations based on justice and equality among states.

On the international economic relations, Col al-Qadhdhafi and President Habyarimana deplored all difficulties (?encountered) in establishing a just, equal, and new economic order and the grave financial and economic and social difficulties resulting from that for the developing countries. Accordingly, they stressed the urgent need to strengthen and hasten the implementation of the steps contained in the Lagos plan and in the Nonaligned Movement's resolutions with a view to promoting South-South cooperation in all areas.

The two leaders stressed the geographical, historical, and cultural unity that exists between the Arab nations and the African Continent and that constitutes a positive factor for relaunching the Afro-Arab cooperation in the highest interest of Arab and African peoples. To this end, they expressed the hope that preparations will be made for an Afro-Arab ministerial meeting in Tripoli as soon as possible.

At the end of his visit, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi leader of the Great al-Fatch Revolution expressed to his brother General Habyarimana, president of the Rwandan Republic and president and founder of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development his sincere thanks for the warm welcome extended to himself and to his delegation during their visit in Rwanda. He invited the president of the Rwandan Republic to pay an official visit to the SPLAJ. this invitation Was accepted with pleasure and the dates of the visit will be set through diplomatic channels.

Tripoli Carries Communique 'Text'

LD181832 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] A joint Libyan Arab-Rwanda communique was issued today in Tripoli and Kigali at the end of the visit by the brother leader of the Great Al-Fateh Revolution to the Republic of Rwanda, where he opened an Islamic center — a minaret for spreading the Arab culture and Islam.

Here is the text of the communique:

Within the framework of the existing friendship and cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Rwanda, and at the invitation of His Excellency Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Rwanda and the founding chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Movement, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great Al-Fateh Revolution paid an official visit to the Republic of Rwanda during the period 16-18 May 1985.

Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the accompanying delegation were met with a warm, popular and official reception as an expression of the strong friendship ties and the depth of the long-established cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Rwanda.

During the visit, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great al-Fateh Revolution, visited social and economic development projects and expressed his great admiration for the development achieved by the people of Rwanda under the wise leadership of President Juvenal Habyarimana.

In an atmosphere of amicability, understanding, and mutual trust, a result of the friendly relations, talks took place between Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great al-Fateh Revolution, and Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, the president of Rwanda. The talks included a number of issues of joint interest and concern, bilateral relations, and international issues.

Concerning bilateral relations, the two sides discussed achievements in all fields of cooperation. They expressed their satisfaction with what had been achieved in this connection, and stressed the importance of consolidating cooperation between the two friendly countries and developing it in the interest of the two fraternal peoples.

Discussing the political situation in the African Continent, the two sides expressed their deep concern at the interference of imperialist forces, new colonialism and racism in all its forms in African countries, and the increase of conspiracies and aggression against African peoples. The two sides condemned this interference, which is aimed at restoring political and military control over the destinies of the African peoples, and at threatening their security and territorial integrity. They called for the establishment of a front by peace-and freedom-loving countries to confront these threats.

The two sides stressed their belief in and commitment to the basic principles of the OAU and UN Charters, and their support for the aims of the Nonaligned Movement. They stressed, in particular, the principles of the rights of people to self-determination, equality, sovereignty, nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries, peaceful settlement of disputes, and the struggle against racism and apartheid.

The two sides reviewed the dangerous and explosive situation in the south of the African Continent, and condemned the policies of apartheid and the murder and genocide operations practiced by white racists of the Pretoria regime against the African population in South Africa and Namibia. The two sides praised the efforts and struggles of the South African Peoples National Liberation Movement against colonialism and apartheid. They stressed the need for the implementation of UN and OAU resolutions concerning the application of compulsory and comprehensive sanctions against the Pretoria apartheid regime.

The two sides expressed their deep concern at the deterioration of the political and security situations in Namibia, and the failure of the efforts made toward achieving its independence because of the rigidity and arrogance of the Pretoria apartheid regime and its continuous refusal to recognize the right of the people of Namibia to independence. They condemned the Pretoria apartheid regime for violating international principles and resolutions, and also its recent attempts to form an internal administration in Namibia and to establish a hireling regime. They stressed their complete support for the struggle of the people of Namibia, under the leadership of the South-West African Peoples Liberation Army [SWAPO], Their legitimate and sole representative. The two sides also stressed their support for the OAU resolution concerning the establishment of a just and peaceful solution to the Chad issue, and called on all the parties in Chad to negotiate toward national reconciliation.

During their discussions on the explosive situation in the Middle East, resulting from the Zionist occupation of Arab territories, they strongly condemned the aggressive and expansionist policies of the Zionist entity against the Arab nation, and reaffirmed their support for the just struggle carried out by the Palestinian people. The two sides stressed their support for the Lebanese people and its patriotic forces in their combating unjust occupation and in their struggle for the complete removal of the invaders from their land. The two sides praised the sacrifices made by the Lebanese people in foiling the Zionist schemes, which are aimed at violating the national unity of Lebanon.

The two sides strongly condemned the production of nuclear weapons by the Zionist entity in cooperation of the apartheid regime of South Africa. The two sides consider their action as another escalation of Zionist aggression in the Arab homeland and Africa.

The Rwanda side expressed its appreciation for the steps and efforts made by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah toward the achievement of unity in the African continent, and of Arab unity and the establishment of peace and security in the world.

Concerning the Mediterranean Sea, the two sides called for turning it into a lake of peace, void of naval and foreign fleets.

The two sides announced their complete solidarity and support for the struggle carried out by all peoples of the Third World in defending their natural resources and establishing international economic relations based on justice and equality between nations.

Concerning international economic relations, the two sides expressed their regret over the obstructions which face the establishment of a new, just economic system. They also expressed their sorrow at the severe economic, financial and social difficulties facing the developing countries. They therefore pointed out the urgent need to apply the measures included in the Lagos plan of action, and the measures which are included in the nonalignment resolutions for consolidating cooperation in all fields. The two sides stressed the geographical, historical, and cultural unity between the Arab nation and the African Continent, which constitutes a positive factor for developing Arab-African cooperation for the benefit of higher Arab and African interests.

The two sides expressed the hope that holding an Arab-Afraican ministerial meeting in Tripoli at a suitable time will be possible.

At the end of the visit, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great Al-Fateh Revolution, expressed his gratitude and thanks to his brother, Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, the president of the Republic of Rwanda, for the warm reception and hospitality which he and the accompanying delegation received. Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great Al-Fateh Revolution addressed an invitation to His Excellency Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, the president of the Republic of Rwanda, to visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The invitation was accepted with gratitude; a date will be fixed later.

Issued in Kigali on 18 May 1985

BENIN

Kerekou Receives Ghana Envoy, Rawling's Message

AB172113 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 17 May 85

[Excerpt] Comrade President Mathieu Kerekou today received His Excellencies Christian Kposu, ambassador of Ghana; Francois-Xavier Gendreau, ambassador of France; and Michel Pilar, manager of SEIB [electricity company] of Benin. Christian Kposu, who was introduced to the president's office by Comrade Frederick Affo, minister of external affairs and cooperation, gave President Kerekou a progress report on the evacuation of immigrants expelled from Nigeria, and to deliver a message of gratitude from Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, the Ghanaian head of state. After the audience with Comrade President Kerekou, he spoke to our reporter, Sylvestre Zomahou:

[Begin Kposu recording in English fading into French translation] The purpose of my visit is to give the president a progress report on the evacuation of Ghanaian nationals involved in the Nigerian quit order. As you know, I went to Ghana recently for a consultation with my government, and I have come back with a message of friendship and gratitude for the president from his brother and friend, Flight Lt Rawlings.

[Zoumahou] How is the evacuation of Ghanaian expellees from Nigeria going? What is the exact number of expellees who have returned to Ghana, and what are the problems facing them, especially as far as transportation is concerned?

[Kposu] According to reports on the radio, and especially those from my country, I think we have already evacuated between 18,000 and 20,000 Ghanaian nationals. As far as transportation is concerned, the Government of Ghana has placed buses at the disposal of its nationals and they carry expellees from the border towns of Aflao and those of Igolo or Krake. All this has been possible thanks to the material assistance the Beninese authorities have been giving us. Once again, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Beninese authorities for all that they done and continue to do for us. [End recording]

Statement Criticizes Foreign Business Practices

AB191215 Paris AFP in English 1117 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Cotonou, May 19 (AFP) — Authorities in Benin today lashed out at Indian, Pakistani and Lebanese businessmen in the West African state for illegally raising prices in their shops and failing to complete construction of a shopping center begun in 1976.

A statement issued today by the office of President Mathieu Kerekou said the foreign businessmen had been ordered to finish the shopping center by the end of this year. It also said the government had rejected a proposal by the businessmen to finance construction of the center with a two per cent tax on imports by businesses due to open shops in the building. The statement accused the Indian, Pakistani and Lebanese traders of satisfying their "greed on the backs of the Beninese working masses." It called on government supporters to seek out and denounce "all dishonest shopowners who raise their prices anarchically and illegally". A list of such shopowners will be drawn up by May 30 and all guilty businessmen punished, the communique said.

BURKINA FASO

Information Ministry Denies VOA Allegations

EA191606 Dakar PANA in English 1325 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Ouagadougou, 18 May (AIB/PANA) — The Ministry of Information and Culture of Burkina Faso has denied allegations made by the radio stations "Voice of America" [VOA] and "Radio France International" [RFI], according to which the ministry suspended the activities of all foreign journalists accredited in the country on 11th May.

The radio commentary, broadcast at about 2100 GMT on 14th May had claimed that the alleged suspension was the logical conclusion of a policy of restricting the freedom of the press carried out since Captain Thomas Sankara came to power.

A Ministry of Information communique notes, however, that while distant experts in the studios of VOA and RFI, in their hurry to denigrate our revolutionary power, gave free rein to their hatred, at the same time dispatches from agencies such as AFP were pouring off telex machines with Ouagadougou datelines. That fact, the statement continues, proves that the claim that activities of foreign journalists have been prohibited is nothing but a downright lie. The ministry statement challenges the radio stations, or anyone else, to produce the document suspending the work of foreign correspondents. The formal denial of these allegations, says the communique, does at least have the merit of showing the Burkinabe people that certain foreign journalists, with local collaborators, have chosen systematically to denigrate our revolution.

Burkina Faso receives foreign journalists and gives them all the facilities to carry out their profession, the ministry points out. The country has no intention of prohibiting coverage of Burkinabe life by foreign media organizations, but only wishes to ensure that these bodies, who know perfectly well that their correspondents must be accredited, should have the honesty to seek accredition. The communique points out that instead of seeking accreditation, some foreign media have preferred to work clandestinely and through corrupting Burkinabe civil servants. The Ministry of Information, warns the communique, will fight against such practices in order to defend the dignity and ethics of the profession of journalism.

GHANA

Government 'Disturbed' by Nigerian Actions

AB171648 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] An official statement just issued in Accra said the Government of Ghana, (?greatly) concerned and disturbed about the reported incidents of brutality and harassment perpetrated by agents of the Federal Government of Nigeria against Ghanaians and other nationals affected by the Nigerian Government's quit order, has again reminded the Nigerian Government of her obligations as member of ECOWAS and as a signatory to the agreements on mutual administrative assistance in matters relating to customs, trade and immigration.

The statement says the government deplores the use of force by the Nigerian authorities against unarmed Ghanaian immigrants and will in due course seek appropriate remedies against the Nigerian authorities for the suffering of the Ghanaians involved and for properties seized or lost as a result of Nigerian Government's policies. The Government of Ghana continues to believe in and will work for African brotherhood under principles of good-neighborliness and believes that migration of labor in the West African subregion is a historical process which is a legitimate challenge to the artificiality of the balkanization of Africa by imperialist powers for their selfish interests. Such migration has often enriched the economies of the recipient countries and has worked to the mutual benefit of the countries of the subregion.

The government of the Provisional National Defense Council will protect the thousands of Nigerians and other Africans in our midst and will discharge its obligations as a member of ECOWAS and the OAU. The statement says finally that the government wishes to assure the public it is doing everything in its power to ensure the safe return of the Ghanaian immigrants involved and to integrate them into the society.

Nigerian Mission Denies Maltreatment Allegations

AB172048 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Nigeria has again denied that it has committed brutalities against illegal immigrants. A statement issued by the Nigerian High Commission in Accra says the Ghanaians among the immigrants are not being prevented from taking their belongings away. It said employers of labor in Nigeria have been asked to pay accrued salaries to the aliens, and any defaulters could be reported to the authorities for redress. The statement reaffirmed the commitment of Nigeria to Africa and that the expulsion of what it called a few other nationals will not alter this policy.

LIBERIA

Elections Group Forsees Delay in Voters List

AB172144 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] The publication of the voters' registration list, scheduled for 21 May will be delayed. In an interview with ELWA news yesterday Emmett Harmon [head of the Special Elections Commission Secom] said his commission needs the amount of $5 million to complete the entire exercise leading to the ensueing elections. The Secom chairman was however quoted as informing our reporter that efforts were being made with newspapers to have the list published but would have preferred it being computerized. He was, however, optimistic about the publication of the voters' registration list before the elections in July.

According to the revised detailed timetable, 21 May is the date set for the publication of voters' registration lists and during this period it is expected that voters' information for verification would also occur. The revised timetable also states that from 22 May to 22 July is the period of verification and of challenges of national voters' registry, while from 8 July to 7 October will be the official campaign period.

MALI

Traore Announces Candidacy for 9 Jun Elections

AB191140 Paris AFP in English
1040 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Bamako, May 19 (AFP) — Presidential and legislative elections will take place in Mali on June 9, President Moussa Traore said here Saturday.

General Traore formally submitted his candidacy for a second six-year term. Parliament is elected every three years.

Candidates for the presidency and parliament have to be approved by the ruling Malian People's Democratic Union, the only party, of which Gen Traore is secretary-general.

NIGERIA

Foreign Minister Discusses Reopening Borders

AB171704 Paris AFP in English
1652 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Cotonou, May 17 (AFP) — The Nigerian Government is considering reopening its land borders to allow thousands of illegal immigrants out of the country, informed sources said here today. Nigerian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Gambari called together the ambassadors of Benin, Togo and Ghana yesterday to tell them this, the sources said. The borders were closed a week ago after the expiry of a deadline for some 700,000 illegal immigrants to leave Nigeria and thousands are still waiting to leave.

Government To Strengthen Police Forces at Border

AB171651 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] About 9,000 illegal immigrants at the Seme border have been split (?into small groups) as part of the Federal Government's effort to prevent another rampage. They are at Seme and Luwo villages near the border. The assistant commissioner of police supervising the operations, Mr D.O. Makinde, told newsmen at Seme that the police will be strengthened at the border and allow easy transportation of the aliens to Lagos for repatriation by sea.

Buhari Meets Sudanese Group, Lauds Objectives

AB190916 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Nigeria has expressed delight that the new Sudanese Government is making efforts to reconcile with the people from the southern part of that country. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, expressed the Nigerian pleasure in Lagos yesterday while receiving a special message from the Sudanese leader, General Muhammad Siwar al-Dhahab. The message was delivered at Dodan barracks by the 3-man delegation of the ruling Sudanese Transitional Military Council. Gen Buhari said that the objective of the Sudanese Government to revamp the economy, stamp out corruption, and control drought was similar to Nigeria's objective. The head of state gave the assurance that Nigeria would continue to maintain brotherly relations with the Sudan and offer her moral and material support where possible.

The leader of the delegation, Brigadier Fadlallah Burmah al-Nasir, had briefed Gen Buhari on the situation in the Sudan and gave reasons for the military intervention.

Buhari Meets With New PLO, PRC Ambassadors

AB171829 Lagos International Service in English
1630 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Nigeria has accorded full diplomatic recognition to the Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO. The representative of the organization, Ambassador (Shamir Beka), presented his letters of credence to the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, in Lagos yesterday. Head of state said that the establishment of an office of the PLO in Lagos reaffirms Nigeria's continued support to Liberation movements. He expressed the hope that Nigeria's relations with the PLO would continue to grow.

The new ambassador of China, Mr Wang Yusheng, also presented his letters of credence to Gen Buhari today.

Minister Urges Industries To Halt Retrenchment

AB180912 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] All industrial organizations in the country have been directed by the Federal Military Government to stop further retrenchments. Any of such organizations that flouts the government directive will be dealt with accordingly. This was stated in Kaduna yesterday by the minister of commerce and industry, Dr Mahmud Tukur, at the commissioning of a new factory built by Bereck Nigeria Ltd. He said that the government took the decision because judging from the recently published results by the organization, almost all the major companies had doubled their profits. What the government expected them to do now is not only to stop retrenchment but to begin gradually to reabsorb workers laid off in the earlier years. Dr Tukur emphasized the determination of the present administration to ensure that the country's industrial sector moves along the right path toward self-reliance, especially in the area of raw material development and procurement. He gave the assurance that the government was mobilizing all the resources available to assist the industrial sector to achieve the desired objectives.

In his speech, the chairman of Bereck Nigeria Ltd, Chief Julius Agbadze, said that the idea of building the factory was to bring the products of his company nearer to that part of the country.

End to Price Alignment With North Sea Oil Urged

LD191601 Dakar PANA in English 1131 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Lagos, 18 May (ANAN/PANA) — Nigeria should discontinue the policy of direct price alignment with the North Sea oil producers in the next national plan period, a top official of the government owned Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC), Mr M. Olorunfemi, advised yesterday in Lagos.

In a paper, titled Management of Petroleum Resources in the Fifth National Plan 1986-1990, delivered at the current 4-day annual conference of the Nigerian economic society, Mr Olorunfemi, who is the NNPC manager for economic research and intelligence, said that the introduction of undisclosed market flexibilities such as packaging of crude sales and moving crudes through joint venture partners on equity basis would achieve better results.

He suggested that Nigeria should make vigorous efforts to penetrate growing Third World countries like Brazil and Korea, which, he said, were going to be oil market growth areas in the 1990s.

Nigeria, he urged, must be willing to take periodic market initiatives, such as offshore processing arrangements and exploring the possibilities of selling products to neighboring African countries.

In the plan period 1986-1990, Nigeria must continue to introduce some marketing flexibilities which will guarantee the nation a reasonable level of oil production between 1,500,000 and 1,650,000 18 dollars, he said.

He stated that those marketing flexibilities should not push Nigeria outside OPEC, adding that such a step might invite countereiling [as received] action from the other members of the organisation that can easily precipitate the cascading of the crude oil prices.

SIERRA LEONE

President Criticizes IMF Conditions for Country

AB171134 Paris AFP in English 0709 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Freetown, May 17 (AFP) — President Siaka Stevens told heads of diplomatic missions and project directors of international agencies that Sierra Leone was looking to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for financial help, but some of the conditions it had laid down could only land the country in far greater difficulties.

At the meeting held here Wednesday, President Stevens said the IMF had requested an end to all subsidies, in particular those on petrol and rice. He said the government had repeatedly told the IMF that "it will lift the subsidy step by step, and that one measure was the increase in the price of petrol by about 40 per cent a few months ago".

The president said the move did not satisfy the IMF authorities, who were requesting a rise in the price of rice by between 200 to 300 per cent. He added: "IMF authorities do not appear to want to negotiate with us. They bring instructions from their home office which they want to ram down our throats without any consideration of local conditions".

Mr Stevens warned: "The subsidies on rice and petrol which they are asking us to do away with at one blow cannot but take Sierra Leone to a dangerous point of no return. This is the background against which we are now struggling in various ways to stabilise the economy".

President Stevens said he was aware that embassies and international institutions "receive foreign exchange allocation from time to time which is converted into leones to finance their local operations, and such conversion is done through the commercial banking system". He appealed to them to "channel their foreign exchange transactions through the Bank of Sierra Leone", which, as the president put it, "will give us full control over the whole foreign exchanges system and enhance our efforts in earning more foreign exchange for official use".

TOGO

Foreign Minister Speaks on Nigerian Expulsions

AB191036 Lome Domestic Service in French
0615 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] The Togolese foreign minister, Atsou Koffi Amegah, gave a news conference yesterday afternoon at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lome on the fate of those expelled from Nigeria. In his statement the foreign minister underscored the concern of head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, over the grave situation created at the borders and the incidents that occurred daily in the area. In this regard, the head of state has taken urgent measures to allow women, children, the elderly, and especially the sick, who had been blocked at the border post between Nigeria and the People's Republic of Benin, to travel to their respective countries.

The Togolese foreign minister delivered a message to Nigerian President Buhari from the president of the republic. In his message, President Eyadema asked President Buhari to consider reopening his country's land borders for humanitarian reasons in order to allow the illegal immigrants to return to their countries. In the face of the grave situation and the incidents which occurred daily at the borders, President Eyadema appealed to President Buhari, in the name of African unity and solidarity between West African states, to take expedient measures to allow women, children, and the sick to cross the borders to return home.

In his reply, General Buhari expressed his gratitude to President Eyadema for taking this wise initiative of sending him the messages. President Buhari asked the Togolese foreign minister to inform President Eyadema that he was ready to take the necessary measures to reopen the Seme and Idiroko borders in order to allow the illegal immigrants who are still in Nigeria to leave. This reopening can only facilitate the crossing of the immigrants if measures are taken by each side to prevent concentration at the borders, which has been the cause of the deplorable incidents which occurred in the past few days.

As soon as the first batch of Togolese nationals affected by the quit order reached the Beninese border, the founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT] and president of the republic, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, contacted his brother and friend, General Mathieu Kerekou, and asked him to facilitate the crossing of civilian and military vehicles to the Nigerian border to transport the Togolese nationals. Considering the quality of relations existing between our two countries and our two heads of state, President Kerekou agreed to the request of President Eyadema who dispatched a convoy of civilian and military vehicles to transport under good conditions our fellow citizens to their respective homes.

One therefore understands the various demonstrations of support and gratitude organized in the prefectures of Vo, Lacs, and Tchaoudjo by the returnees and their families who were joined by the militants of these areas. This is a testimony of their gratitude to the founding chairman of the RPT, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, who is famous for his generosity, humanism, and readiness to search for concerted and peaceful solutions to the problems of the subregion.

Expelled Immigrants From Nigeria Arrive in Lome

AB181210 Paris AFP in French 0839 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Lome, 18 May (AFP) — Four thousand Togolese nationals expelled from Nigeria arrived at the Lome port late Friday Afternoon, (?thus bringing) to 6,200 the total number of illegal Togolese immigrants who have so far returned home by sea. About 2,200 Togolese returned to Lome by ship on Monday night. This contingent brings to about 15,500 the number of those who returned to their country by road through the Nigeria -Benin border at Seme. This repatriation took place without much difficulty thanks to the vehicles that the Togolese Government sent to Seme to transport its nationals soon after Nigeria opened its land borders.

On Friday, the returnees organized marches in their prefectures in support of President Gnassingbe Eyadema in order to thank the government for the diligent way in which it organized their return home.

ANGOLA

Interior Minister Criticizes RSA 'Aggression'

MB171100 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] A delegation from the Council of Defense and Security yesterday began a control and assistance visit to Malanje Province. The delegation will continue its visit there tomorrow reviewing the activities of the 9th Military Region Council. The delegation is led by Colonel Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matroce, the minister of state security, and includes Adexandre Rodrigues Kito, the minister of interior, and Evaristo Domingos Kimba, the minister of agriculture and provincial coordination. In a brief statement to the media, Interior Minister Alexandre Rodrigues Kito pointed out that the joint work with the military officials of the 9th Military Region would improve the defense of our national interests in the struggle against imperialism and the external enemies of the Angolan revolution.

Minister Kito said that the Angolan people were determined to respond in an appropriate manner to South African aggression against our country. We have been preparing ourselves for the defense of our territory and revolution, and if aggression occurs, the racists will once again be defeated, he said. The minister of interior said that Angola had no relations with the South African Government. There have been talks by necessity, and these talks have been affected by the recent of the South African Government to install a puppet government in Namibia. This situation, according to Lieutenant Colonel Alexandre Rodrigues, has in some ways made it difficult to continue talks, and the Angolan Government's demands for a solution to the overall problem have not been satisfied in any way, when you consider that the South African Government maintains its troops in Calueque and Ruacana.

The interior minister reiterated that Angola cannot in any way accept the solution which has been created today with the installation of a puppet government in Namibia. Only international bodies, such as the United Nations, are the proper place for the solution of the issue.

COMOROS

60 Arrested Following 8 March Coup Attempt

AB200752 Paris AFP in French 1430 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] Paris, 19 May (AFP) — About 60 persons have been arrested following the "communist inspired" coup attempt in the Comoro Islands on 8 March, Missubah Said Ali, a person close to President Ahmed Abdallah, affirmed in Paris on Sunday.

In a statement to AFP, Mr Missubah stated that the coup attempt was organized by "some junior officers" of the presidential guard, "manipulated from outside by people who claim to be of the Democratic Front and which, in fact, is just a cover-up for the communist movement," he said.

According to Mr Missubah, the coup should not only have brought about a change in regime, but "a total change in the society by the physical elimination of political and religious personalities as well as businessmen in order to completely eliminate all opposition and restore communism in the Comoro Islands. It is therefore logical, he continued, that there have been some arrests, about 60, and not 600 as some claim. There have been no senseless repressions, as it often happens in other countries. The arrested persons, who are being detained in humane conditions, will be tried according to the law."

Mr Missubah felt that the Moroni government did not have to receive lessons from some of the Comoran opposition, "who are cut off from the realities of the country." It is true, he said, that just like the rest of the world "we are facing a severe economic crisis. Like many other countries, we depend on world prices, however, since last year our products (vanilla, cloves, and ylang-ylang) have been selling low."

"Faced with this crisis," Missubah added, "the government tries to do its best. We get regular assistance from France, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the Emirates. This year the first deep sea port in the Comoro Islands will come into operation."

For Mr Missubah, relations with France are good in spite of "the thorny issue of the Mayotte." The United States is preparing to open an embassy in Moroni. [Passage indistinct]

NAMIBIA

Draft Proclamation for New Government Completed

MB180625 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Our representative in Windhoek reports that the draft proclamation for the establishment of the new central government in South-West Africa has been completed, and will be submitted to the cabinet-elect on Monday.

A nominated minister, Mr Moses Katjioungua, has confirmed that the draft proclamation is being submitted to prevent arrangements being made which might adversely affect the territory's inhabitants. He said the decision to take this step had been made by the MPC during its last meeting with the South African state president, Mr P.W. Botha. The draft proclamation will be submitted to Mr Botha for sanction.

SOUTH AFRICA

Bill To Give 'Greater Freedom' to Black Mobility

MB201026 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1019 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Parliament, May 20, SAPA — A bill which gives greater freedom of movement to blacks with, or in the process of qualifying for, Section 10 rights, was published today.

Once enacted, blacks will be able to legally follow their employers or employment oportunities and move to any prescribed black township in South Africa without losing Section 10 rights. This will also apply to a black still in the process of qualifying without loss of qualifying years.

A spokesman for the Department of Cooperation and Development said today that blacks would now be able to qualify for Section 10 rights in ten years if he worked continuously for a single employer in any number of the prescribed urban areas in "white" South Africa, or within 15 years if he continuously worked in any number of these areas without breaking service by returning to his homeland for employment.

As it stands, Section 10 of the Black (urban areas) Consolidation Act of 1945 lays down that any black who wants to stay in a prescribed area — such as an urban black township — for more than 72 hours must prove either that he lived continuously in that area since birth, or worked continuously there for one employer for not less than ten years, or that he has lived there legally for not less than 15 years. To retain this right he has to stay in the area, and may not work outside it. But in terms of the Laws on Cooperation and Development Amendment Bill, published today, blacks who qualify in terms of Section 10 (1) (A) — by having lived in an area since birth — and (B) — by having worked or lived there for the specified period — will be able to retain those rights when they live or work in prescribed areas other than that in which they obtained the qualifications.

They will be allowed to make up the qualifying period required by Section 10 (1) (B) in different prescribed areas.

In addition, blacks who settle in the self-governing or independent national states, or on South African Development Trust land, or whose home becomes part of any of these areas, will retain any Section 10 (1) (A) (B) or (C) qualifications they already have.

Section 10 (1) (C) deals with dependents of those who qualify under (A) and (B).

A memorandum attached to the bill says the government decided on the removal of these restrictions after "a thorough investigation".

UDF, Azapo, Inkatha Meet on Easing Hostilities

MB200726 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0603 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Johannesburg, May 20, SAPA — Three black political organisations — Azapo [Azanian People's Organization], the UDF [United Democratic Front] and Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha movement — met during a service at the Regina Mundi Church in Soweto, near Johannesburg, yesterday afternoon. The service, organised by Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, and addressed by several other priests and spokesmen for the three organisations, was called as part of a day of prayer to ease hostilities among the UDF, Azapo, and Inkatha. It was the first time UDF and Azapo agreed to a meeting with Inkatha, which is considered to be collaborating with the government.

A representative of the UDF, former Robben Island prisoner Mr Murphison Morobe, said that since its formation, the UDF was aimed at bringing about unity among the oppressed groups. "That is why when homes of several of our members were bombed, we did not blame Azapo, because Azapo is not our enemy," Mr Morobe said. He said although Azapo and the UDF had "different tactics," he did not believe that should necessitate fighting each other.

Azapo Issues Statement

MB171140 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1120 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Johannesburg, May 17, SAPA — The Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] remained committed to all constructive measures to resolve the conflict between itself and the United Democratic Front, Azapo's president, Mr Ishmael Mkhabela, said today.

In a statement issued in Johannesburg after a visit to Port Elizabeth, he said recent developments in the eastern Cape were, however, "seriously undermining attempts at constructive resolution of the conflict nationally."

Since the beginning of May at least four Azapo people had been killed in the conflict, two of them children (aged three and five) of Azapo members, he said. At least 33 houses of Azapo members had been stoned and burned, seven of them completely gutted, 19 Azapo members had been "mercilessly attacked and sustained serious injuries," and 12 members of Azapo had been arrested "in connection with the UDF-Azapo conflict."

The "shaky truce" reached between the two organisations in the eastern Cape last week by community concern over the "destructive, disgusting and abhorrent nature of the conflict" was being "strained to the limit by the provocative and ambivalent actions of UDF elements in the area," and funeral arrangement for two Azapo victims of the conflict were being made under the most trying circumstances.

Mr Mkhabela listed the names of the Azapo members he claimed were killed and injured in the conflict and of those arrested as a result of it, saying physical attacks against Black Consiousness [BC] supporters by supporters of the Freedom Charter and UDF affiliates had been on the increase since 1983.

"BC organisations have always exercised the greatest restraint in the face of extreme provocation and physical attacks. Under the cloak of general civil uprising, the UDF has shown its hand in pursuance of its grand hegemonic ambitions as the sole authentic representative of the liberation struggle."

Mr Mkhabela said Azapo fully supported Bishop Desmond Tutu's initiative to bring about peace between rival black organisations, and would be represented at "peace" service to be held at several churches in the Transvaal at the weekend. He, himself, would be in Port Elizabeth to attend the funerals of two Azapo victims of the conflict, he said. Father Lebamang Sebidi, who is to chair a "peace" service in Soweto on Sunday, said today high-ranking Azapo and UDF representatives would attend the service, at which the main speaker would be Bishop Tutu. "I have undertakings from both organisations that representatives of Azapo and the UDF will speak to the people and spell out their aspirations. It is important that we learn to live together despite our differences in ideology," he said.

9,000 Miners Strike at West Transvaal Mine

MB181218 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] A spokesman for Rand Mines has announced in a statement that about 9,000 black miners have gone on strike at the Blyvooruitzicht gold mine near Carletonville, following the dismissal of two workers. The balance of the work force, about 2,000 men, reported for work as usual. In the statement, the managing director of the mine, Mr Gordon Mosenthal, said that both men, who are members of the National Union of Mineworkers, had been discharged after found guilty by a mine disciplinary hearing of intimidating and threatening a fellow worker. The strike began last night, when only 300 of a total of 2,000 night shift workers reported for work. Conditions at the mine were normal until 2 weeks ago, when workers started boycotting bars and beer halls at the mine hostels.

ANC Claims Responsibility for Brakpan Explosions

MB180724 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has claimed responsibility for the three bomb explosions which occurred in a white South African suburb in Brakpan last Tuesday.

A spokesman for the organization said that the explosions were in support of the 1-day strike by black workers to mark the funeral of a trade unionist, the late Comrade Andries Raditsela, who died shortly after being released from detention. The ANC spokesman also blamed the racist Pretoria regime for murdering a member of the organization in a bomb blast in Botswana's capital, Gaborone, on Tuesday. The victim, Comrade Mwake Moiketsi, alias Vernon Nkadimeng, was the son of the general secretary for the South African Congress of Trade Unions Comrade John Nkadimeng. His murder is seen as a part of continuing efforts by Pretoria to force Botswana to sign a nonaggression pact with the minority white regime in South Africa.

Commentary on U.S. Objection to Disinvestment

MB170937 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1700 GMT 16 May 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The main concern of us, as freedom fighters in South Africa, and of progressive forces internationally is to spare no means in the struggle to overthrow the apartheid regime. In this connection we bring our views forward in traditional [words indistinct], for the question of freedom in our country is now a matter of urgency. It is in this light that the question of imposing economic sanctions or that of disinvestment and the termination of bank loans to the apartheid regiem is being raised in such countries as the United States and others in the West and in the United Nations and other international organizations.

Right now a movement is snowballing in the United States demanding concrete action by the administration there against the apartheid regime for its callous and insensitive murder of unarmed people and generally its oppression — the uprooting of certain communities and separation of families. This movement is [word indistinct] for the Reagan administration to take such concrete measures without delay.

What has been Reagan's response to this? It has been an unequivocal objection. Reagan is supposed to [word indistinct] sanctions and disinvestment will do nothing to help the cause of the oppressed, but instead harm the very people it is intended to help. It is argued that the United States can best help the cause of the oppressed in our country by continuing to invest, for that would provide jobs for the Africans, jobs which they would lose in the case of disinvestment.

At the same time, as all these reasons are being given to support continued investment, the Reagan administration imposed sanctions without any prodding from anywhere on Nicaragua. Is it because in Nicaragua sanctions will not hurt anybody, or they will by some strange magic only (?pinch) those that the Reagan administration (?hates) and wants to punish. For if this is not the reason there is equally no logic in using sanctions, especially in Nicaragua, if in South Africa they are a double-edged sword. Why sanctions in Nicaragua? Who is the Reagan administration fighting against there? It is fighting against the united government of President Daniel Ortega and the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which fought an armed struggle against the Somoza dictatorship and won in 1979. The United States finds the policy of the Sandinista government anathema for they are [words indistinct] the benefit of the Nicaraguan revolution to the broad mass of the country's people than to a tiny clique of exploiters. America is allied to the exploiters in Nicaragua. The foreign policy of the Managua government is in favor of freedom and democracy in Central America. It supports the struggles of the Central Americans fighting agaisnt American-backed dictatorships. This also is unwelcome as the policy in Washington.

In Nicaragua the United States imposed sanctions, for it is against the policies of the government there, not because it [word indistinct] all Nicaraguans cannot punish all of them. In South Africa those who call for sanctions similarly are only opposed to the policies of the regime there and want something to bring [words indistinct] this regime but not to punish all the people of South Africa, whether black or white. For in South Africa we are told that sanctions should not be imposed for we only have a quarrel with the regime but not with all the people. Sanctions will not be (?selective). They will bite more on those they are not intended for, the people, particularly the suffering people whose freedom threw the question of sanctions into the (?agenda).

In Nicaragua this does not matter. They are imposed. Now what is this if it is not a double standard? The imposition of sanctions against Nicaragua by the Reagan administration following its failure to secure from Congress $14 million to pay to the anti-government Contra bandits has exposed the fallacy of the administration's argument against sanctions on South Africa. This administration is not against sanctions for the reason that they will [words indistinct] more than the regime they are intended to punish. The Reagan administration is against sanctions for they will bring down the (?very) regime that is its ally in this part of the world. It does not matter whether this ally is a cruel and bloodthirsty regime like the apartheid regime. By refusing to support sanctions and disinvestment, the Reagan administration is [words indistinct] in the suffering Africans in South Africa.

It is not surprising for that to come from the Reagan administration. It is an administration which is an ally of suspicious and repressive and undemocratic regimes in all parts of the world. In South America, the Reagan administration is against the progressive and popular governemnt in Cuba and Nicaragua, and went so far as to overthrow a government in Grenada, for it could not tolerate people's democracy in that part of the world. And at the same time as [words indistinct] progressive and popular democratic governments, it supports lock, stock, and barrel dictatorships like that of [names indistinct], Stroessner in Paraguay, and whichever dictator is there.

That goes for Africa and for Asia. Look for a dictatorial regime and you have found the Reagan administration the best friend. In southern Africa not only is the apartheid regime a dictatorial and bloody regime but it is enforced for the expansion of this (?road) in the whole region. This regime is considered an important bridgehead for the fall of this region to fight forces of darkness as the MNR in Mozambique, UNITA in Angola, the MPC in Namibia, and the LLA [Lesotho Liberation Army] in Lesotho.

Here lies the Reagan administration's rejection of sanctions against South Africa, not because African workers will lose their jobs. Our allies in the United States are people who today are campaigning agaisnt this inhuman and ignominious policy of the Reagan administration. In many ways we support the struggle, our struggle, and we, together with them, are [word indistinct] the Reagan administration and its allies in the apartheid regiem will never [words indistinct].

United we shall achieve our objective. Long live the forces of progress. Down with imperialism. Amandla! [power!]

ZIMBABWE

Banana Bans 13 Political Symbols for Elections

MB170555 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] The president, Comrade Canaan Banana, and the minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, have banned the use of 13 symbols, including any bird of prey and a flaming torch, for political purposes. The banned symbols are the lion, bird of prey, (?laurel wreath), leaopard, cheetah, owl, sword, griffin, cobra, secretary bird, flaming torch and axe, a rhino, or a rhino's head. The symbols have been banned for the general elections of this year, and any by-election during the next 12 months after it. The eagle symbol used by ZAPU is therefore banned, and so is the flaming torch, used by Sithole-ZANU.

Minister Explains Ban

MB180708 Harare Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The minister of justice, legal and parliamentary affairs, Comrade Eddison Zvogbo, says the new Electoral Act and the Emergency Powers Order 1985 are designed to prohibit the use by political parties of symbols and badges that have already been adopted by the defense forces, police force, and prisons service. Explaining the reasons for banning the use of certain symbols for political purposes, the minister noted that some symbols have been omitted, and therefore the original order and notice will be amended to rectify the omissions. The omitted symbols are the buffalo, elephant, and flame lily, which are used by 1 and 3 Brigades, and the prisons services. So far, 13 symbols have been banned, among them the eagle, which had been adopted as party symbol by Joshua Nkomo's party, ZAPU.

Minister Says Nkomo Free To Address Rallies

MB180710 Harare Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] The minister of state for political affairs and provincial affairs and provincial development coordination, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, has assured the ZAPU leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, that he is free to address rallies anywhere in the country, as long as he does not take dissidents along with him. Addressing a rally at Tjolotjo growth point in Lupane yesterday, Comrade Nyagumbo said the government has arrested seven dissidents who accompanied the ZAPU leader last week to Tsholotsho, where he was due to address a rally. The rally did not take place because people demonstrated against Dr Nkomo.